THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, CTH JANUARY.

WE received too late the last issue of the *Bengalee* to be able to announce in our last the change which has taken place in the management of that paper. Babu Surendranath Banerjea has taken over charge of the paper. We heartily welcome Babu Surendranath as a co-adjutor in the field of journalism. His talents and abilities, knowledge and independence of feeling are eminently calculated to add materially to the strength of the Native Press.

THE LAST administration report of Bengal contains the following notice of Hill Tipperah :

The most noticeable event of the year was the bestowal on the Chief of Hill Tipperah of the title of Moharajah as a personal distinction in recognition of his loyalty and his earnest endeavour to improve the administration of his state.

The condition of the Moharajah's finances is unsatisfactory, and there appears to be little hope of improvement. After the payment of the Government revenue, some debts and fixed charges, and the expenses of management, only a small balance was last year available for expenditure at Agurtola, and the revenues derived from the state and the Zamindary together were insufficient to meet the expenditure. Since the accession of the present Moharajah in 1862 the state has suffered severely from the litigation caused by the peculiar customs of inheritance prevailing in the family of the Chief of Hill Tipperah.

There was a real advance in primary education during the year, and at its close there were 18 schools with 430 pupils, against 6 schools with 186 pupils at the end of the previous year. The school at Odeypore and the Persian maktab and Sanscrit tole at Agurtola, all of which are old institutions, were revived, and the Political Agent, who inspected nearly all the schools in the state, reported that the only one in an unsatisfactory condition is the Anglo-vernacular school at Agurtola.

The administration of justice was on the whole satisfactory.

Since the close of the year the Moharajah has issued a proclamation forbidding, under penalties to be awarded by the criminal courts, the sale, purchase, receiving in pledge, or forcible detention as a slave, of any human being. All persons now actually in bondage are to have the option of leaving or staying with their masters, and in future no contract of service for a period exceeding three years will be recognized as binding. The Moharajah has also withdrawn the prohibition against the exportation of rice from Agurtola and its neighbourhood except under a special permit.

It has been decided that the Moharajah must maintain and garrison three stockades at Pherua Dharmanagore, Chirakuti near Koilashur, and Kamalpore.

The Political Agent has been requested to insist on the proper discipline and punctual payment of the troops employed for the frontier posts. TheMoharajah has recently purchased 200 muskets and sniders and a considerable stock of ammunition and clothing for the equipment of his force.

During the past year the meagre character of the work embraced in the administrative charge of the Political Agent attracted the attention of Government. The appointment of a European Officer at Agurtola as Political Agent was rendered necessary by the fact that while Hill Tipperah was beyond control, the chief used to involve Government in difficulties with the Kookies, who retaliated for his proceedings by raids into British territory. These complications no longer exist, the Kookie raids have of late years altogether ceased, and the experience of the past few years has shown that an officer in the position of the Political Agent of Hill Tipperah is incapable of doing any real good. The local Government accordingly recommended to the Government of India at the beginning of the present year that the separate office of Political Agent should be abolished ; that the Magistrate of Tipperah should be appointed ex-officio political agent and that a native Deputy Magistrate should be stationed at Agurtola as Assistant Political Agent. These proposals have recently been approved of by the Government of India and will be at once carried into effect.

WE TAKE from the same source the following account of the affairs of the Newab Nazim of Moorshedabad :

With a view to the liquidation of the heavy debts incurred by the Nawab Nazim, the Government of India in 1873 determined to take into its own hands the management of his personal stipend, amounting to Rs. 7,32 553 per annum. This decision was carried into effect, and the Nabob Nazim's Debts, Act. XVII of 1873, was passed by the Government of India for the purpose of protecting theNabab Nazim and his property for legal processes and for the settlement of his debts by a Commission. His liabilities, as determined by the Commission appointed under the Act, amounting to Rs. 16,85,461 were fully paid up by the end of the past year.

Under the provisions of the Act above mentioned the Commission determined what jewels and immoveable property in the possession of the Nizam are held by the Government of India for the purpose of upholding the dignity of the Nabab Nazim for the time being. The lands declared to be state property, consist of seventeen estates paying revenue direct to Government, six putni tenures, and 141 rent free and rent-paying estates, situated in Moorshedabad and other districts and having a total area of a little more than 175 148 beeghas, or 57,900 acres. These are at present in the actual possession of the Nabab Nazim, having been made over by him without authority to members of his family and retainers for maintenance. With the view of facilitating the identification of these estates in future, it was directed that they should be surveyed, the title and interest of all parties in possession recorded, and permanent boundary marks erected where necessary. During the past year, however, very little progress could be made owing to the opposition of Ameer Shaheb, third son of the Nabab Nazim, to the survey operations carried on in the villages held by him in Pergunnah Gopeenathpore in Moorshedabad. As any attempt to prepare a complete record of the rights of those in possession appeared likely to cause further difficulties, it was decided towards the close of the year that operations should be restricted to measuring the fields and ascertaining the actual possessor of such plot.

THE SETTLEMENT of the seven Government estates in Bogra, known as the Jaipore estates, which had for many years been farmed to Mr. Peter, has been completed. The revenue has been raised from Rs. 13,145 to about Rs . 42,899. There has been no change in the rates of the assessment. The increase it is said is due to change in the class of land occupied by ryots and to extend their cultivation. We wish the quantity brought under extended cultivation had been given. What is meant by the change in the class of lands ? Does it not imply enhancement of assessment according to class of land ?

IN CHITTAGONG the Noabad Settlement is progressing, and the following table shows the outturn of the last two years :—

	Area measured.	Number of separate plots.	Cost of measurement.	Cost per 100 acres.		
	Acres.		Rs.	Rs.	As.	P.
1876-77 ...	137,982	166,674	24,683	17	14	2
1877-78 ...	107 405	138,973	20,288	18	14	3

LAST YEAR in Government estates in Bengal there were 200 original settlements effected giving a revenue of Rs. 19,090. There were 316 resettlements, involving a revenue of Rs. 76,483 and 217 summary settlements with a revenue of Rs. 1,41,246. The net increase of revenue from all these settlements was Rs. 43,224. In other words there was an increase of about 20 per cent. Is enhancement of rent going on at this rate in Government estates ?

TUESDAY, 7TH JANUARY.

THE FOLLOWING statement shows the total number of estates administered by Government on behalf of their proprietors, and the classes to which they belong :

	1875-76	1876-77.
Class I.—Warda' estates managed under Act IV (B.C.) of 1870 ...	55	66
„ II.—Estates of lunatics under the charge of the Collector by an order of a Civil Court under Section 11, Act XXXV of 1858 ...	20	19
„ III.—Estates of minors placed under the Collector's management by an order of a Civil Court under section 12, Act XL of 1858 ...	38	42
„ IV.—Shares of disqualified proprietors retained under the Collector's management by an order of a Civil Court passed under Act IV (B.C.) of 1870, section 3 ...	2	2
„ V.—Attached Estates ...	346	339
„ VI.—Chakljat estate placed under the Board by Special orders of Government ...	1	1
Total ...	462	469

IN ITS LAST ADMINISTRATION REPORT the Government of Bengal makes the following remarks on the working of the Wards' Institution :

During 1876-77 fifteen lads were educated at the Wards' Institution in Calcutta, at an average cost of Rs. 214 each per mensem. This was slightly above the average cost in 1875-76, but prices were high during the year, and, looking to the social position of the wards, the amount was not excessive. The lads make fair progress in their studies, considering the want of any special stimulus to work. They take very readily to manly exercises—riding, shooting, swimming, wrestling and walking. They play quoits, cricket and billiards, and their moral tone is believed to be thoroughly healthy.

THE TOTAL NUMBER of persons sentenced to whipping in Bengal during last year was 3,423, of whom 2,959 were flogged for their first offences, and 464 for the second and subsequent offences. In 93 cases the number of stripes awarded was less than five, in 630 cases the number was under 10 in 847 under 15, in 856 under 20, in 841 under 25, and in 516 under 30. Sentences of whipping were inflicted on 366 persons under 16 years of age, and on 68 persons of 50 years of age and above. In 425 cases the offenders were sentenced to imprisonment in addition to flogging. We hope Lord Lawrence's order that persons of the *bhodrolok* class should not be sentenced to whipping is being carried out.

THE FOLLOWING comparative statement shows the quantity of China and Indian teas sent to Great Britain since the calendar year 1868 :

Years.	Export from China. lb	Export from British India. lb
1868 ...	142111486	9095444
1869 ...	126482613	11241070
1870 ...	125593898	12933993
1871 ...	151636036	15150953
1872 ...	160520882	16435970
1873 ...	Not available.	
1874 ...	131659993	18440394
1875 ...	170966836	25784866
1876 ...	155897192	28126854
1877 ...	153379753	31245251

THE TOTAL AREA of the lands acquired for public purposes in Bengal during the last year was 3,636 acres, at a total cost of Rs. 8,43,794, plus abetments of Government revenue, which amounted to Rs. 240 The total area acquired under the old law (VI. of 1857) up to the close of 1877-78 was 32,447 acres, at a cost of Rs. 57,06,624 ; while 38,117 acres were acquired under Act X of 1870, at a cost of Rs. 59,30,451. The average cost of all the lands taken was Rs. 167 an acre ; but this includes all the lands taken up in and about Calcutta for the Port Commissioners and Municipality, as well as for Government, lands which sometimes averaged over Rs. 70,000 an acre.

ACCORDING to the last administration report of Bengal, the number of native newspapers supplied to the Bengal Library during the past year was 40, against 35 received in 1876-77. Of this number 5 were daily, 25 weekly, one bi-weekly, 5 monthly and 4 bi-monthly ; all were published in Bengali with the exception of one bi-monthly in Urdu, one weekly in Hindi one weekly in Persian, 3 weekly in English and Bengali, and one weekly in English and Urdu. Of the 40 papers supplied to the Library 14 were published in Calcutta, 11 in the Presidency Division, 5 in the Dacca Division, 5 in the Burdwan Division, 3 in the Rajshaye and Cooch Behar Division, and two in the Patna Division. We are afraid this list is not complete, for there are vernacular papers published in Orissa, which have not been apparently included.

THE TOTAL NUMBER of publications of all kinds received in the Bengal Library during the past year was 1,576, against 1,512 received in 1876. Of this number 272 were in English and the remaining 1304 in other languages. Their distribution as regards place of publication is exhibited below :

Place of publication.	Number published.
Town of Calcutta	1172
Dacca Division ...	102
Presidency „	113
Burdwan „	95
Orissa „	69
Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division,	2
Patna Division	48
Assam „	1
Bhagulpore Division	5
Total ...	1576

No publications were received from the Chotanagpore and Chittagong Divisions.

WEDNESDAY, 8TH JANUARY.

LINA BERGER, a young Swiss lady, has just taken the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Berne University, after a brilliant examination ; and two other ladies, American and Austrian, have passed as doctors of medicine.

THE DEATH of Mr. George Henry Lewes, called "the most widely cultivated literary Englishman of his generation" leaves a gap in the ranks of celebrated authors. His (still more celebrated wife, "George Eliott" is said to be in feeble health.

IT IS stated that the Council of the Secretary of State for India is at present discussing the practicability of lighting the railway stations in India with the electric light.

THE ENTIRE population subject to the Amir of Afghanistan is estimated at 6,000,000. Kabul has 60,000 inhabitants, Kandahar about 40,000 and Herat 45,000.

INFORMATION has been received of fresh piracies on the Carteef Coast by a band of about 50 Beni Hajir and Ejman Arabs. They were led by Zaid Bin Muhammad, the leader of former piracies, who is believed to reside at Makran. The property pillaged in one boat belonging to Guttur is estimated at 50,000 krans.

THE MAHSUD WAZIRIS have made an incursion across the frontier and plundered Tank. They re-

treated into the hills pursued by Cavalry and a part cut off. Reinforcements have been sent to Bannu and Dera Ismail to prevent any repetition as some Mullahs from Kabul are known to be active in those hills.

THE GAZETTE OF INDIA of last Saturday publishes a notification, extending the offer of retirement to colonels of the Indian army on the same terms as those of previous years, to the year 1879.

IT AFFORDS us great pleasure to read in the columns of the *Statesman* the following testimony to the character of Bengali officials in the N. W. P. Referring to the appointment of Babu Abinash Chunder Banerjea to the Sub-Judgship of Furrackabad our contemporary says that "the Bengalis are earning a high character there for their fellow-countrymen of the Lower Provinces. We were greatly pleased to hear how highly Englishmen spoke of the Bengali Judges in the North-West. The dawn of happier days than in the past, is we believe breaking over India, and, as rulers, we must have the wisdom to cast off our selfish exclusiveness, and make a way to public honors for the graduates coming out of our universities every year." But we are sorry to say that the present policy is to taboo the educated Bengali not only in Northern India but also in Behar.

THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY.

WE HAVE been furnished with a copy of a letter addressed by Rai Jadu nath Rai Bahadur of Krishnaghur to the District Collector on the subject of the recent Resolution of the Government of Bengal in the Nuddea Road Cess defalcations. We are sorry we cannot give it *in extenso*; we give the following extract from it:

That although the Road Cess Act, gives the Vice-Chairman power irrespective of the Chairman I did not think it prudent to compel him to give me work in opposition to his wishes so long as he was primarily responsible for every thing in the Department.

Such being the state of affairs and it being known to Mr. Stevens that I was in no way responsible for what had occurred in the office he asked me to take charge of the Road Cess Office in March 1871 after the defalcations were first detected.

The reason why I did not think it necessary to resign immediately on the detection of the frauds, was that the frauds were not committed by my relation when I had to do anything in the office, and that my continuance in the office instead of being any obstacle in the way of Mr. Stevens, finding out further defalcations would help him to realize the amount supposed to have been defalcated, from the family of the accountant and it was therefore I did not consider *that* a proper time to resign my appointment. I may here state that I did not belong to the same family as the late accountant B. G. Mookerjee but that he is only related to me.

HIS HIGHNESS Syud Turki, Sultan of Maskat, hearing that two natives of India were being held in slavery at Rostak in the interior of Oman, sent to the Arab chief who rules in that part, and insisted that the slaves should be brought in and given up to the British Political Agent. Unfortunately one of the slaves a woman died on the way, having been ill for some time previous. The other, a boy about 13 years old, is being sent to Bombay. According to his own account, he would appear to be of Hindu parentage, and he states that he was sold in Haidcrabad about two years ago to the Arab who carried him into Oman. The importation of Indian slaves into Southern Arabia has been carried on for many ages, and the traffic is believed to have ceased only with the suppression of piracy by the Indian Navy.

MR. RAJARUTHNAM, an educated native of Madras, who distinguished himself in the Mauritius as the friend of the oppressed coolies, has addressed us the following letter on the Affghan question:

SIR,—I avail myself of the present crisis to submit for your consideration, the following views which arise out of the portentous events in Afghanistan now engaging national discussion here and abroad. I am desirous that my communication may be regarded mainly from the stand point of a loyal citizen who has at heart the interests of his countrymen; furthermore, since it has been declared that India shall defray the expenses of the Afghan war, I plead my position as a tax-payer to obtain a hearing for my suggestions novel though they may appear.

Happily, under the disposition of an over-ruling Providence, there seems no reason to doubt the ultimate success of our Expedition, and the political ascendancy of the British Government in the Amir's territory. It might be deemed presumptuous in any individual, at such a juncture, to recommend to a Government so ably constituted as ours, any particular line of policy in regard to the future of the conquered State. Or rather, it would have been so considered a few years back, ere the Natives of this land had been courted into co-operation with their rulers, in matters where the stability or welfare of the Empire was concerned. With our present Viceroy however, there is perhaps the less restraint in such a course, from his having been the chosen instrument for cementing into one Imperial fabric the heterogenous populations of India, and thus imparting a sense of national pride and a stimulus to National service to the humblest subject of the Crown.

It is but an axiom to say, that of all national contingencies next to Famine the most deplorable is that of War. While it lasts, the States affected become so many diseased limbs of the body politic so to say of the world. And every human being affected thereby naturally yearns for the operation which shall restore health and tranquility. The more permanent these can be made, the more honor to the State Physician who makes them so. In the latest calamity which has overtaken the Empire, the more distressful as following so sharply on the heels of a fearful Famine, the courageous and intelligent resources of the British nation have been as conspicuous as they have always been in similar emergencies. But as it is the second time within one generation that we have had to contest the same footing with the same foe and as the future of the Empire is clouded with much uncertainty and apprehension, I humbly remark that it behoves us to guard against a recurrence of the event which though now propitious has once cost us humiliating reverses and may in the future repeat the result.

Among the various views enunciated by the press, no one so far as I am aware, appears to have included the proposition which I here venture to make. This I shall briefly define, without further preface. The Viceroy has indicated very clearly in his *ultimatum* that the enemy whom India has to reckon upon in this affair is not so much Afghanistan as our traditional antagonist of Russia. And however politicians may disguise the fact that is the universal feeling of every Englishman and Hindu from Pashawar to Cape Comorin. That being so, and as the Government seem to repudiate all idea of material advantage by the conquest of the Amir's country, I believe that we shall best gain our ends by restoring Afghanistan to the Afghans but not to Shere Ali or any other Amir. The recognition of a future Amir will place us just where we started as regards Russian consequences and leave us, to fight our battles over again indefinitely. But the division of the kingdom into three or four independent principalities on the model of the feudatory states of India and especially those of Rajputana, each being independent of the other, but all in alliance with the British Crown, would give a perpetual *quietus* to Russian intrigue on our Indian frontier. This arrangement, with a British Resident and a small contingent in each of the principalities would secure the country for all time to come from the disquieting influences which Russia has exercised upon our political affairs for the past quarter of a century. We shall thereby moreover avoid the odium of annexation. As regards Afghanistan itself the happy era of its regeneration will thus have dawned upon it. Art, science, and progress will leave their foot print as they have done through the length and breadth of this land, and of every land where the British flag has been unfurled. "The barren wilderness shall smile" and these long neglected sons of Ishmael shall in due course take their proper place in the scale of civilization.

It would be going beyond my purpose in addressing you to hazard any detail on the question of "rectification of frontier," political or scientific, which may be in contemplation with our conquered neighbours. I will content myself with having communicated what I conceive to be a scheme which my enlightened countrymen, and many representative minds here and in England, would wish to see adopted in preference to the annexation of Afghanistan under what pretext or conditions soever.

V. RAJARUTHNUM MUDALIYAR.
Madras 31st December 1878.

THE EX-KING of Oudh lately purchased two tigers for Rs. 25,000. The man in charge somehow had forgotten to bolt a door, and the animals got out. The tiger was killed on the spot, but the tigress swam across the river to the Government Botanical Gardens opposite. She took up her quarters there for four days and killed a bullock or two. At last she was despatched by Mr. Wace, the Magistrate of Howrah.

WE HAVE received a copy of a memorial to Government from the Indian Trades Association against the Factory Bill. We regret we cannot publish the memorial *in extenso* for want of space. The Association strongly object to the Bill. The Indian Trades Association is the outcome of the License tax agitation of last year. It consists of Hindu and Mahomedan merchants and traders. The Association should take up the question of the value-payable parcel system, which we notice in another column. The new system affects both European and Indian traders.

WE ARE exceedingly sorry to record the death of Babu Rashbehary Bose, Deputy Collector, Ranchi. We heard from him only the other day, but little did we dream that the hand which wrote the letter about three weeks ago would be palsied by death in so short a time. He was a very able officer, and bore a very high character. He was also a man of literary tastes, and wrote several papers for the *Calcutta University Magazine* and *Mookerjee's Magazine*.

FRIDAY, 10TH JANUARY.

WE HEAR on credible authority that Babu Poreshnath Sukkul, late Deputy Collector, Krishnaghur, and at present manager, Satkhira estate, has been suspended in connection with the Road Cess defalcations of Nuddea.

WE ARE glad to see it stated that Raja Komul Krishna Bahadur has been exempted from attendance in our civil courts.

THE SCHEME of a Railway to Capua it appears has been vetoed. It is stated that Sir Andrew Clarke has given his decision that a line might be made from Umballa to Kalka at the foot of the hills, with some chance of eventually "paying," but an Alpine one over the hills up to Simla would have no chance whatever, the cost would be so great while the traffic would not be sufficient to cover the outlay—so Sir Andrew has at once put a decisive veto on the scheme.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL has issued new rules regarding municipal and local accounts. The Lieutenant Governor has ruled that in future the Accountant-General of Bengal shall send, once a quarter to the officer charged with the administration of each Municipality or local fund, a statement showing receipts and disbursements on account of the funds as well as its balance at the close of the quarter, and such officer must state in reply whether he does or does not accept the balance, and must lose no time in making good, any claim he may wish to put forward on behalf of the fund. The sending of the statement by the Account-General need not be deferred until a reconcilement of the balances at present shown in various accounts has been effected, as it is of importance to ensure that current receipts and expenditure are correctly shown in the accounts, and that the Accountant-General is to be personally held responsible for taking such steps so as to ensure that the treasury *plus* and *minus* memorandum for each Municipality or local fund agrees with the figures shown in his accounts, and treasury officers may, when required, certify the amount of receipts and disbursements which in their accounts they have credited or debited to any municipality or local fund, but such certificates are open to correction by the Accountant-General in whose office the accounts of balances are kept.

WE ARE sorry to learn that His Highness the Maharaja of Burdwan is seriously ill. He has come down to Calcutta for treatment.

THE BANK of BENGAL has raised the rate of interest one per cent. upon demand loans.

WE HAVE received a copy of a new weekly started at Puna, under the name of the *Deccan Star*. We wish our young brother every success.

WE HEAR that the Bengal Government has sent up to the Government of India for sanction its proposition for the appointment of an auditor of municipal accounts throughout Bengal.

SATURDAY, 11TH JANUARY.

THERE were 411 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 28th December, of which 17 were from cholera, 8 from small-pox 203 from fever, 72 from bowel complaints, 20 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. The number of deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races was 14.

THE MOTION for applying the Indian revenue to the cost of the Afghan War was opposed by Messrs. Fawcett, Gladstone, Laing, O. Morgan, Sir G. Campbell, Sir H. James, Sir G. Balfour, Sir W. Lawson, Mundella and Childers. The next mail will bring the report of the debate.

IT IS stated that the New Ross election, at which the Conservative candidate was returned, was attended by serious rioting The Police charged the mob with fixed bayonets. Several persons were wounded. One Constable's skull was fractured with a stone. And yet no one has the courage to argue against the elective system in England.

WE ARE exceedingly sorry to notice the death of Mr. H. E. Sutherland in the obituary list brought in by the last mail. He was a member of the firm of Messrs. Begg Dunlop & Co. He served as Justice of the Peace for Calcutta, a member of the Bengal Legislative Council and a member of the Vice-regal Legislative Council. His death is regretted by a large circle of friends.

WE HAVE received the prospectus of a new school established in Calcutta under the name of Collegiate School. We wish it success.

WE THANK Messrs. Gupta & Co. for a copy of their Bengali Almanac for 1286, Bengali era. It is a useful, handy publication, and may serve as a pocket companion. We notice an innovation in the Almanac in a picture of Brahmotsob or the Anniversary festival of the Brahma Samaj.

ATTENTION having been called to the small number of Mahomedans elected to the Municipal Committees of certain towns in the North-Western Provinces, the subject has received consideration, which has shown that as the number of Hindus in the province is about 26½ millions, while the Musulman population is only about 4 millions; also that in some of the large towns the proportion of Mahomedans is even less than this and that the wholesale merchants who form the wealthiest and often the most intelligent portion of the community are mainly Hindus, it cannot but be expected that the majority of the Municipal Committees will consist of Hindus. Yet the number of Mahomedans elected to fill vacancies in the Municipal Committees in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh in 1878 was 112, the number of Hindus elected being 247. The Mahomedans have therefore even a larger share of municipal appointments than would have been

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expected from the proportion they bear to the general population. By whom was this anxious enquiry started?

THE RUSSKAYA PRAVDA of the 4-16 November confirms the statement that the destruction of the dam of the Oxus at Bent, and the consequent flow of water into the Uzboi, an old bed of the Oxus, is regarded by the Russian authorities as a very important politico-geographical event. The Uzboi is being explored by a Russian expedition, with a view to the initiation of such engineering works as may be necessary for the improvement of its navigation

A LEVEE will be held by His Excellency the Viceroy on the 29th instant. Cards must be sent in not later than the 25th idem.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks, the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals :—1. A Blacker Pamphlet by H. A. D Phillips C. S. 2 Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of British India No. 8 of 1878-79, 3 Records of the Geological Survey of India, Vol. XI, Part 4, 1878. 4. The Saddarshana Chintanka or Studies in Indian Philosophy for November 1878. 5. A Hindu Gentleman's Reflections on the Works of Swedenborg &c. London. 6. Chhinna-masta—A Romance in Bengali. 7. Gupta Punjika for 1286 B. E.

THE SECOND GARDEN PARTY at Belvedere came off on Thursday last. Among others there were the fugitive Burman Princes and the Nepalese Ambassador and his suite. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor was as usual courteous and affable.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London January 5th.—The banking firm of Tweedy Williams and Company of Truro has failed in consequence of a run on the bank. The liabilities are not known.

5th.—Latest advices from the Cape state that the Frontier disputes have been settled in favour of the Zulus.

7th.—Mr. Forster yesterday addressed a meeting at Bradford; his speech contained a violent attack upon the foreign policy of the Government the result of which he said, he hoped, would be the condemnation of the imperial policy which might lead the whole world into war. He denied that the liberal party desired to abandon India. India he concluded, needs remission of taxation, not conquests. He said that the fatal mistake of the Government policy was the idea that England should do the work of Europe. It was not her business, he protested, to defend Constantinople. The suspension of Tweedy Williams and Company at Truro has revived uneasy feelings and apprehensions in the money market. The total liabilities are announced to be one million sterling. The natives of India now residing in London intend to organise a meeting to petition Parliament to release India from bearing the expenses of the Afghan war.

8th.—The prevalent depression in trade is causing a general reduction of wages the result being an increase of strikes which are very numerous. One of the most important of these movements has taken amongst the employes of the Midland Railway. No less than 1,500 of whom, filling places of goods guards and shunters, have struck.

9th.—Lord Beaconsfield is progressing favourably. The returns issued by the Board of Trade of imports for the past month amount to £26,562,500, showing a decrease of £5,362,500, as compared with last year. The exports for the past month amount to £14,625,000 showing a decrease of £1,312 500, as compared with last year.

9th.—The official correspondence on the subject of the re-establishment of the native government in Maisur has been published. It concludes with a despatch from the Marquis of Salisbury, dated October 4th. 1877, cordially approving of the steps taken to promote the retirement of British officers with the object of substituting natives. The despatch recognises the necessity of postponing the introduction of the changes sanctioned in consequence of the famine, approves of the separation of the tutorship and guardianship of the Maharajah of Maisur, and offers to procure a qualified tutor if required.

10th.—Lord Beconsfield has completely recovered from the attack of gout which at first was so severe as to cause some apprehension.

Paris January 5th.—The Senatorial elections have resulted in a Republican triumph. One Conservative and 64 Republicans have been elected. The Republican majority in the Senate is now 57.

St. Petersburgh, January 8th.—The semi-official *Agence Russe* confirms the report that the Amir has entered Russian territory, unattended by troops. The plague is increasing at Astrakhan. The Russian authorities are taking rigorous measures to localize it.

Rome. January 9th.—The Pope has published an encyclical directed against socialism.

Berlin, January 9th.—The Prince Bismarck has introduced a Bill into the Federal Council, aimed at the socialists.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 1879.

THE LORDS ON THE AFFGHAN WAR

THE question of the Affghan war called into play the debating power of the highest order in the House of Lords. Lord Cranbrook, the Secretary-of State for India, introduced the debate by moving the following motion :

"That, Her Majesty having directed a military expedition of her forces charged upon Indian revenues to be despatched against the Ameer of Afghanistan, this House consents that the revenues of India shall be applied to defray the expenses of the military operations which may be carried on beyond the external frontiers of Her Majesty's Indian possessions."

Viscount Halifax moved the following amendment :

"To leave out from the word 'House' to the end of the motion for the purpose of inserting 'while ready to consent to providing the means necessary for bringing the war in which we are unhappily engaged to a safe and honourable conclusion regrets the conduct pursued by the Government which has unnecessarily engaged this country in the contest."

Although the whole question turned upon the proposition that the cost of the Affghan war should be borne by India, strange to say that with the exception of Lord Northbrook not another speaker touched upon it in the long and wearisome speeches, which occupied nearly three nights. We will discuss the financial part of the question in a separate article. The gist of the debate was the vindication of the policy of the Government. Lord Cranbrook made a lucid, and elaborate exposition of the whole subject from his point of view. Although new to the India Office he had completely mastered the facts of the case and presented them with considerable gusto. He spared none. He gave the ex-Viceroy right and left. In reviewing the history of the relations of our Government with Affghansthan he gave some side hits to Lord Lawrence. In the first place Lord Cranbrook pronounced it unfortunate that in consequence of Lord Elgin's death the letter of the Amir Shere Ali for recognition of his title to the throne of his father remained unanswered for six months. His Lordship remarked : "There were wars between Shere Ali and members of his familiy at the time when the noble lord opposite (Lord Lawrence) was at the head of British affairs in India. He pursued a policy of recognizing *de facto* Governments of Afghanistan, and not only of Afghanistan, but of parts of Afghanistan. The noble lord, though one of those who maintained the necessity, in the imperial interests, of a strong Afghanistan, signalized his Viceroyalty by recognizing *de facto* Governments in that country. When Shere Ali though partially unsuccessful, obtained a pre-eminence at Herat, the noble lord recognized him as the *de facto* ruler of Herat, while he at the same time recognized as *de facto* ruler of Cabul and Candahar Ameer Mahomed Ufzul Khan, his brother, to whom he wrote a letter congratulating him on his successes over Shere Ali. It was not until the latter was again on the throne of Cabul and seemed to be permanently seated there, that the noble lord wrote to him offering him that assistance which would have been so useful to him when he was struggling for that throne. (Hear, hear.) Shere Ali felt that." This policy of every thing to every body pursued by Lord Lawrence had not certainly the merit of sincerity. Coming down to Lord Mayo's Government Lord Cranbrook said, Lord Mayo had instructions not to enter into any entangling engagements for the future. His Lordship added : "I cannot but think that in the not taking advantage of what might have been done by Lord Mayo a great opportunity was lost." Then came the negociation of the Amir with our Government in 1873. Referring to this stage of the history of the question Lord Cranbrook said : "Well, then, on the papers I say that in 1873, when Shere Ali points out the danger which had arisen from Russian advances, the time had come for a change in our policy towards Afghanistan (cheers); the time had come when we were bound to say that we would protect the Ameer, and protect him for the safety and security of the Empire." But the Amir's prayer was not granted. In noticing this subject Lord Cranbrook attacked the policy of Lord Northbrook. The ex-Viceroy has made a complete vindication of the part allotted to him, and we will come to it in noticing his speech. With regard to the present Lord Cranbrook said : "Events are crowding upon each other in Europe and Asia, and to speak of the policy of 1868 as the policy of 1878 would be what, if it were not for those who do argue so, I should describe as foolish." Entertaining this opinion His Lordship sought to justify the policy of the present Government. It is not necessary for us to recapitulate the facts of the case, which are well known to our readers. The speakers in the Opposition shewed that although the mind of the Amir has been alienated from us by the vacillating policy of our Government the manner in which negociations were carried on by Lord Lytton's Government tended to deepen that alienation. Lord Halifax, who moved the amendment said :

Well, some communications passed between the Viceroy and the Ameer on the subject and he must say the communications from the Viceroy were not all of a very complimentary character. For instance on the 10th of October 1876, the Viceroy said to the Ameer's agent—

"But the moment we cease to regard Afghanistan as a friendly and firmly allied State what is there to prevent us from providing for the security of our frontier by an understanding with Russia which might have the effect of wiping Afghanistan out of the map altogether? (Hear hear.) If the Ameer does not come to a speedy understanding with us, Russia does; and she desires it at his expense. (Hear hear.) The Viceroy then said that if the Ameer remained our friend this military power could be spread round him as a ring of iron and if he became our enemy it could break him as a reed."

(Hear hear.) And on October 13—

"He said he had treated the Vakeel confidentially and had stated without reserve all that he had in his mind. He had no doubt that the Vakeel would convey this faithfully to the Ameer."

(Hear.) What would their lordships think of such language addressed to a Power whose friendship we desire to cultivate? (Hear.) Speaking with regard to what his noble friend called a *sine qua non* the Cabul Envoy said to Dr. Bellew on the 28th of January, 1877 :—

"He (the Ameer) is now convinced that to receive British officers to reside in his country would be to relinquish his own authority and the lasting disgrace this brought on the Afghan people will be attached to his name and he would sooner perish than submit to this."

And again on the 7th of February he said to Dr. Bellew :—"You must not impose upon us a burden we cannot bear." What was the burden? The residence of British officers on the frontiers of Afghanistan. And on the 16th of February at an interview with Sir L. Pelly the Envoy said :—

"In the fist place the people of Afghanistan have a dread of this proposal and it is firmly fixed in their minds and deeply rooted in their hearts that if Englishmen or other Europeans once set foot in their country it would sooner or later pass out of their hands."

And yet we were told that,

"So far from wishing to urge upon his reluctant consideration the expediency of British officers being appointed to assist him in the defence of his frontiers the proposal of this arrangement was regarded by to British Government as a great concession; and that the British Government will most assuredly not allow its officers the undertake duties on behalf of Afghanistan involving a residence in any part of that country unless their presence there is specially invited and cordially welcomed by the ruler of it, whoever he may be, and their personal safety and comfort solemnly guaranteed by the same authority.

Well, afterwards, though the Viceroy knew that the Ameer was prepared to concede all we required, our native agent was withdrawn from his Court.

Thus the responsibility of the present war was cast upon Lord Lytton, but we believe that His Lordship did not take a single step without the orders of the Home Government. But let the responsibility rest on whom it may, we cannot rise from a perusal of the debate without a deep conviction that it was the short-sightedness, want of skill and common prudence and sincerity of our Government, which brought about the complications, and set the train on fire.

The debate was wound up by Lord Beaconsfield. His Lordship made a clever and incisive speech. He did not enter into a defence of Lord Lytton's Government, or into the facts of the case, or into the financial part of the motion, but dwelt on the broad question of scientific frontier. After quoting Lord Napier of Magdala's opinion on the necessity of rectification of frontier Lord Beaconsfield said :

He does not shrink from the use of the word rectification, although definitions of that word have been given by many noble lords opposite which are not to be found in any dictionary. (Cheers and laughter.) The noble earl who resumed the debate to-night spoke of rectification as though it were another phrase for spoliation and annexation. "(Hear" from the opposite benches,) I expected those cheers and wished to receive them. "(Hear" and laughter.) Another noble earl who spoke in the debate yesterday—I wrote down his words, because, unfortunately, on a previous occasion he seemed to accuse me of misquoting him—said, "I hate the word rectification. It seems to me to savour of the worst traditions of the French Empire—a word to conceal wrong and robbery." A noble marquis described it as a dark word, and he seemed to tremble as he uttered it. (Cheers and laughter.) For my own part I cannot agree in any of these definitions. (Cheers.) The rectification of our frontier is a correct diplomatic term, which is accepted by the highest authorities and which has a precise and a definite meaning. The rectification of frontiers, instead of being a word of the French Empire, had been long adopted, and your lordships will be surprised to find that the peace of the world very much depends upon those treaties. If all the treaties for the rectification of frontiers were destroyed as instruments of the terrible kind described by noble lords opposite and by the noble earl on the cross benches, the peace of the world would be endangered, and might be destroyed. (Hear.) Well, my lords, after that observation the other night I took a note of some treaties for the rectification of frontiers, and I took them on conditions which I am sure your lordships will agree are fair. First of all they are all modern—I would not produce old specimens. (A laugh.) Secondly they are not only modern treaties, but treaties none of which were entered into or negociated after a war. Therefore they

are not the consequences of force or fraud, (Hear. hear.) Now, I find that from 1866 to 1853—quite in our own time—there were five treaties between France and Spain for the rectification of frontiers, and I have no hesitation myself in saying that if any of those treaties had not taken place, there would have been war between France and Spain, and that the existence of those treaties prevented war. (Hear, hear.) Between France and Switzerland there was a treaty for the rectification of frontiers in December, 1862—a treaty of some celebrity—one which was certainly not a dark instrument. It was a treaty which certainly has contributed to the maintenance of peace. There was a treaty between Great-Britain and France for the rectification of frontiers, and it might surprise one to find a treaty of that kind between an island and a continent (a laugh); but it had reference to their possessions in the East Indies. That is a modern treaty. There is a treaty for the rectification of frontiers between Italy and Switzerland, and one between Portugal and the Transvaal, of which I believe the noble earl on the cross benches has some knowledge. (A laugh.) To make it complete, there is a treaty for the rectification of frontiers between Great Britain and an Oriental Kingdom like Afghanistan—the Kingdom of Siam.

Our application to the Amir was, in fact, founded upon the principle of rectifying our frontier without any disturbance of territory whatever. What was our difficulty with regard to Afghanistan? We could gain no information as to what was going on beyond the mountain range or what was preparing in the numerous valleys of Afghanistan. What we wanted, therefore, was eyes to see and ears to hear, and we should have attained our object had the Amir made to us those concessions which are commonly granted by all civilized States, and which even some Oriental States do not deny us—namely, to have a Minister at his capital—demand which we did not press—and men like our Consuls-General at some of his chief towns. That virtually would have been a rectification of our frontier, because we should have got rid of those obstacles that rendered it utterly impossible for us to conduct public affairs with any knowledge of the circumstances with which we had to deal as regarded Afghanistan. Therefore, the noble earl is precipitate in concluding because I am in favour of a rectification of frontier, that necessarily any change would occur.

We confess we do not clearly understand Lord Beaconsfield. First he says he wants scientific frontier, and then he says he wants only "eyes to see and ears to hear," in other words British Residents at frontier posts. The two ideas cannot be consistent with each other. If a scientific frontier is a necessity, was it urged upon the Amir on the grounds mentioned by Lord Beaconsfield? Was it clearly explained to him that it was for mutual protection that the rectification of the frontier was needed? It would have been honest, if the proposal had been laid before the Amir with sufficient equivalents as compensation. But nothing of the kind was done. Only the location of British Residents had been urged, though the Amir had all along expressed his serious objections to it. We for one take leave to doubt whether "a scientific frontier" would be the best security for us. For our part we think the neutralization of Affghanstan would have a much better security. Lord Beaconsfield said that that policy, which had been followed for the last thirty years, did not answer. Referring to our present boundary His Lordship said: "We have been in possession of this boundary for, I believe 28 years. During that period we have been obliged to fit out 19 considerable expeditions to control its inhabitants, between 50 and 60 guerilla enterprises, and have employed upon these expeditions between 50,000 and 60,000 of Her Majesty's troops." But what guarantee is there that a rectification of the frontier will save us all future trouble from the border tribes. The rectification unless affected with the consent of the tribes would clearly mean annexation of their territories, and knowing their character we cannot believe that they will be quiet. So the rectification of the frontier, far from diminishing our danger, will we fear aggravate it.

THE COMMONS ON THE AFFGHAN WAR.

IN the Commons the debate on the Affghan war commenced in connection with the Address to the Queen. The Marquis of Hartington, who took the lead of the Opposition, said at the outset that "he had no intention whatever to oppose any measure which Her Majesty's Government may think it necessary to bring before the House for the purpose of obtaining means to prosecute the war. "As this war has been entered upon, it is no doubt satisfactory that it should be prosecuted, as I have said, with vigour; and it is satisfactory, too, to know that so far as the operations have hitherto been conducted, they have been well conceived and admirably executed." His Lordship, however, censured the policy of the Government, and he justified the censure by precedent. He said, "in 1857, in the other House of Parliament the late Lord Derby, and in this House Mr. Cobden, supported by the present Prime Minister, by the whole Conservative party, by many members on both sides of the House, did not think it unpatriotic to pass a vote of censure upon Lord Palmerston on account of the war which was in progress at the time." His Lordship's ground for condemnation of the policy of the Government were thus summed up: "Before the departure of Lord Northbrook from India the relations of Her Majesty's Indian Government with the Amir, though not cordial or altogether satisfactory, presented no element of danger; and that the Amir, while suspecting no danger from England, was very seriously alarmed as to possible aggression on the part of Russia. When Lord Lytton went to India he at once attempted to institute a new policy with regard to Affghansthan as compared with that of several among his most recent predecessors, and he did this on grounds so transparent that the Amir could not fail to see through them; pretexts as unwise as they were unnecessary. (Hear, hear.) In order to induce or to compel him to comply with the demands of Lord Lytton, the Amir was addressed in letters containing threats which were not only intended to alarm him, but which actually had that effect. (Hear, hear.) These threats were repeated in an interview which was had between the Amir and our native envoy, and in the course of which the Amir appealed to the treaties which had been concluded with him and the assurances he had received from various envoys as to the position which he was to hold in relation to political matters affecting his country. At the end of this negotiation a violent letter was written by Lord Lytton for transmission to the Amir, in which his conduct was denounced and in which Lord Lytton repudiated the obligation contracted by the British Government towards that of Affghansthan; and, in short, cast off the alliance which had been entered into. The conference was put off by the death of the envoy, but Lord Lytton concluded the business, and did so on the basis of renouncing our obligations to the Amir. (Hear, hear.) I wish to point out one very singular circumstance in connexion with all these events, which is that they are all recorded in one single despatch, and that in a period of 15 months no despatch appears to have passed between the India and the Home Governments, although the negotiations must have been proceeding during the whole time or a great part of it. (Hear, hear.) Is it a fact, as has been surmised, that if the despatches which passed were published they would not point to an unanimous, or nearly unanimous, opinion between the Viceroy and the Home Government; or is it a fact that the high-handed measures of Lord Lytton did not receive the cordial support and concurrence even of his own Government? I certainly think that explanations on this point ought to be received, and that is my sole reason for mentioning it at the present juncture. (Hear, hear.)" We have not space for all the speeches delivered on the occasion, but we cannot pass over Mr. Gladstone. He made a most energetic speech. His political sagacity at once scented the course which affairs might take in Affghansthan. He opened his oration by making these remarks: "The rulers of Affghansthan do not always make due submission. They have a habit of disappearing (Laughter.) Suppose Shere Ali, without making due submission, disappears from the scene of your military operations, what is the noble lord to do then? Is he to keep an army of occupation in Affghansthan? And if so, for how long? Quarrels with Affghansthan are not apt to reach a very speedy conclusion, and I think that if the noble lord saw fit thus liberally and generously to give us his future intentions, he ought to have contemplated an alternative which is perfectly possible, and which, if we are to judge from the case of Dost Mahommed might even be more probable than the due submission he contemplates with so much complacency." Now, the future, which Mr. Gladstone somewhat jocosely anticipated, has arrived. The Amir Shere Ali has levanted, but it is said not without giving due notice to our Government. It is said, that he left his capital after putting his son Yakub on the throne, and after writing a note to Lord Lytton to the effect that he was proceeding to St. Petersburgh with a view to lay his case before the Great Powers of Europe. If this be a fact, then matters are seriously complicated. Will our Government go on fighting? If offers of peace be made on behalf of Affghansthan, with whom will the negociations be carried on? Mr. Gladstone hitted the nail on the right point when he made the jocose exclamation. Mr. Gladstone then discussed the Affghan papers most witheringly. He charged the Government of India with gross inaccuracies, and gave examples. The great orator then dwelt upon the policy of the Government on the Affghan question:

What was the situation of things when Lord Northbrook quitted India? There had been no change in the Indian policy between the accession of the present Government and departure of Lord Northbrook from India. That was not owing to the present Government. Lord Salisbury at the earliest period began to feel the pulse of Lord Northbrook on the subject of a change. The reception of the first overture was not favourable. He devised a more formidable attack. He instructed the Government of India to alter its policy. Lord Northbrook declined to comply with the injunctions of Lord Salisbury and he gave his reasons for so doing. Lord Northbrook then quitted India. The new Viceroy was sent out with new views and new ideas. The noble lord opposite has described the policy of the late Government on this subject as old, exploded, barren, and useless. Those are the epithets which he applies to the policy of Lord Canning, of Lord Lawrence, of Lord Mayo, of Lord Northbrook, of the other Viceroys of India since the time of the first Afghan war, and of every Government including his own, that has held office in those 25 years. (Hear.) I cannot for a moment check the luxurious imagination of the noble lord in his choice of epithets; but when he passes from adjectives to substantives (a laugh), when he deals with matter of fact, I take leave to protest against his fundamental propositions, although I fully admit that I have no means of confuting them except by reference to the papers which have been produced.

Mr. Gladstone next criticised the Affghan papers, and delivered the following heart-stirring peroration:

We are now at war; our gallant forces are engaged in mortal strife. You have made this war in concealment from Parliament, in reversal of the policy of every Indian and Home Government that has existed for the last 25 years, in contempt of the supplication of the Ameer, and in defiance of the advice of your own agent, and all for the sake of obtaining a scientific frontier. We made war in error upon Afghanistan in 1838. To err is human and pardonable. But we have erred a second time on the same ground and with no better justification. That may also be human, and if, as such, it be pardonable, it is certainly, to say the least, lamentable, and repeated error is a grief. This error has been repeated in the face of every warning conceivable and imaginable, and in the face of an unequalled mass of authorities.

It is proverbially said that history repeats itself, and there has rarely been an occasion in which there has been a nearer approach to identity than in case of the present and the former wars. We have plunged into war upon the same ground, to act against the same people, and to fight against the son of the same man whom we previously fought against. There is still many a living being in Afghanistan whose memory bleeds at the recollection of the horrors we carried into their country and which we ourselves endured not yet 40 years ago, and yet all this is to be done over again. May heaven avert the omen! (Cheers.) May heaven avert a repetition of the calamity which befell our army in 1841! (Cheers.) But Her Majesty's Government must surely feel that the terrible calamities of those four years could not pass away without leaving upon the minds of the people of Afghanistan most painful traces. How could they look with friendly eyes upon those who had inflicted these miseries upon them without cause? However, it so happened, for the last five-and-twenty years a succession of wise and cautious and far-seeing Governments have been in power both in England and India, and that every effort has been made to efface those painful memories. I remember a beautiful description of one of our modern poets of a great battle-field during the Punic Wars, in which he observed that for the moment nature was laid waste and nothing but the tokens of carnage were left upon the ground; but day by day and hour by hour she began her kindly task and removed one by one and put out of sight those hideous tokens and restored the scene to order and to beauty and to peace. It was such a process that the Viceroys of India, had been carrying on for years in Afghanistan. I, now ask, Is all this to be undone? (Cheers.) The sword is drawn and misery is to come upon this unhappy country again. The struggle may, perhaps, be short. God grant that it may be short! God grant that it may not be sharp! But you, having once entered upon it, cannot tell whether it will be short or long. You have again brought in devastation and again created a necessity which, I hope, will be met by other men, with other minds, in happier days; that other Viceroys and other Governments, but other Viceroys especially—such men as Canning, Lawrence, Mayo, and Northbrook (cheers)—will undo this evil work in which you are now engaged. (Cheers.) It cannot be undone in a moment, although the torch of a madman may burn down an edifice which it has taken the genius, the skill, the labour, and the lavish prodigality of ages to erect. (Cheers.) As I have said, it cannot be undone in a moment. The best we can hope is the reinstatement of a pacifying and mitigating process, and its ultimate, though remote, success. In the meantime I should have some hope of this division, if I really believed that many hon. members of this House had made themselves individually masters of the case which is disclosed in the recesses of those two volumes of Parliamentary papers. They have not done and cannot do this, and, therefore, this will go as other votes have gone. You will obtain the warrant of Parliament and the triumph of military success for the moment. That military success has not been quite so unchecked up to the present, but it has in substance corresponded to that which led us on in 1838 and blinded us to the perilous nature of the step which we were taking. Be that as it may, how-

ever, you will probably obtain sanction and the warrant which you seek. The responsibility which is now yours alone will be shared with you by the majority of this House; but many who will decline to share it will hope for the ultimate disapproval and reversal of your course by the nation. But, even if the nation should refuse such reversal, those members of this House who oppose your course will believe that they have performed a duty incumbent upon men who believe that truth and justice are the only sure foundations of international relations, and that there is no possession so precious, either for peoples or for men, as a just and honourable name. (Loud cheers.)

The peroration was worthy of the great apostle of liberty and political morality. We have not space for other speeches, which we may notice in a future issue.

LORD NORTHBROOK ON THE AFFGHAN WAR.

LORD NORTHBROOK's pre-eminent position in the debate in the Lords on the Affghan war by reason of his recent connection with India as its responsible ruler calls for a separate notice of his speech on this momentous subject. His Lordship was necessarily placed in a delicate and somewhat awkward situation. In discussing the policy of the Government on the subject he could not but discuss the proceedings of his own administration in India, but he did so with great good taste and perfect freedom from bias. His Lordship admitted that he was alarmed by the progress of Russia in Central Asia. "The Government of India of that day," his Lordship said with reference to the events of 1874, "were very much concerned about some probable movements of the Russians in the direction of Merv, and at the time when the late Government resigned that question was particularly prominent. The Government of India wrote pressingly to the Home Government to speak frankly to Russia, to tell her of the inconvenience that would come from that advance, and that they would do what was possible to prevent it. The noble earl (Lord Derby) wrote in the strongest terms to the Russian Government, and said that the advance of the Russian arms in the direction of Merv would impose on Her Majesty's Government the necessity of making provision in order to remove the misapprehension that would otherwise be felt." Lord Northbrook quoted Lord Beaconsfield on the same subject. He said, "with respect to the opinions of Her Majesty's present Government on this matter, it is hardly necessary to do more than refer to the speech of the Prime Minister in the House of Commons in May, 1876, when he said he was not one of that school who viewed the advance of Russia into Asia with the deep misgiving of some. "At no time," he added, "was there a better understanding between the Government of St. Petersburg and the Government of St. James, and there was this good understanding because our policy was a good and a wise policy." I think that these were wise words because they expressed clearly that the policy of both Governments towards the Government of Russia was one and the same." The object of Lord Northbrook in making these references was evidently to shew that Her Majesty's Government were at one with him in the view he had taken of the advance of Russia in Central Asia. Differences however arose between his Lordship and the Secretary of State as to the manner in which the object aimed at should be accomplished. The Amir wanted from us an unconditional guarantee of protection, and Lord Northbrook candidly confessed that our Government did not give it. His Lordship went on: "I had the honour of serving the present Government as Viceroy for two years, and did I receive any instructions to give Shere Ali the unconditional guarantee he wanted? Not one single hint. (Cheers.) Then the noble viscount opposite (Lord Cranbrook) pointed out that this and that ought to have been done, but he, too, forgat that he was making charges, not against me, but against his own Government. (Cheers.) There can, in fact, be no distinction in this matter between the present and the late Government. The noble marquis opposite (Lord Salisbury) did not, as I have said, give me one single hint in regard to giving Shere Ali his unconditional guarantee, and therefore, I say that the charges brought against my humble self, are without the slightest foundation, (Cheers.) I do not accuse the Government of doing any thing wrong in the matter, for I do not believe any Government would do such a thing as to give Shere Ali an unconditional guarantee of protection—arms, ammunition, troops, whatever he liked—without asking for any thing in return. This is what was asked, and this is what it is said I ought to have given. I have said that during these eight years there has been no change of policy; we both want the friendship of Affghanstan. Our difference is as to the means of securing it. In 1875 I received the despatch of the noble marquis as to the desirability of our having a resident at Herat. I should always have liked to have had on that frontier a British officer to give us the information we required. I was not against the policy." His Lordship stated his reasons why he did not consider it expedient to press the location of British Residents in Affghansthan. His Lordship next touched upon the proceedings of his successor:

In June, 1875, the Governor General in Council gave an opinion that it was not wise to force British Residents on the Amir. We thought it might lead to trouble, and, as servants of the Government, we thought it our duty to point that out. At that time there was no hurry about the matter; but having been told that the course pursued was likely to alienate the Amir, we stated our opinion to the Government; but the Government, notwithstanding the unanimous opinion of the Viceroy and his Indian Council, said the course they had pointed out must be followed. Lord Lytton received instructions, both written and verbal, distinct and positive, before leaving England, on the subject, insisting that if the Amir did not receive an English envoy he would be in a position of isolation. Under statutory rules framed by the Governor General in Council the members of Council had a right to express their dissent from any act done by the Viceroy. These three members of Council expressed their dissent at the time and in the ordinary way from the particular course which the Viceroy intended to take. The Viceroy requested them to postpone the publication of their dissent until the despatch was sent home; but, for some reason or other the despatch was not sent home for a great length of time. I do not blame Lord Lytton for detaining the despatch; but, whatever the reason, it is totally contrary to the practice that the course of all important affairs should not be frequently reported to the Home Government. I assert from my knowledge as a member of the Government of India that it would be within the competence of these gentlemen to make their dissent public, and, where they had not an opportunity of doing so then, they are right in making their dissent public now.

Again:

When the Viceroy closed the conference he took away from the Amir every assurance that he had received of protection and support from Lord Lawrence, Lord Mayo, and myself, either for himself or for his dynasty. (Hear, hear.) He took away our native agent from Cabul, and therefore deprived him of the means of communicating with the British Government; and perhaps the noble marquis opposite will explain what door was then left open to the Amir. (Hear, hear.) Well, these were the circumstances of this case. I think the course pursued was not wise. When the Government found that the Amir was not ready to do what they wanted, they need not have altogether broken off from him, or have led him to feel that he had nothing more to expect from them. If a different course had been taken, his feelings were such that he would rather have accepted their terms, however hard he might have thought them to be. Then came one of those periods when a real difficulty occured, and it was necessary that something should be done with regard to Afghanistan. That arose on the complication of European politics as between England and Russia, those two Powers being gradually brought to the verge of war. It would then have been right and necessary to have strengthened our relations with the Amir, and in what a position had Her Majesty's Government then placed this country with reference to Afghanistan? By the action they had taken by pushing on a thing which was not necessary when there existed no crisis whatever, they had so alienated the Amir that it would have been almost humiliating then to have made many advances towards him. (Hear, hear.) The Secretary of State used an expression in regard to the state of things in 1873 which was far more applicable to the policy of 1876, namely, that "it was too late." The policy of Her Majesty's Government had rendered it too late then to make a friend of the Amir when that was really wanted. It may be said that I ought not to content myself with offering such a mere criticism as that, but should indicate what I think ought to be done. I say that if the Amir had not been frightened about those officers, the moment there was the probability of a war between Russia and England the viceroy ought to have communicated with the Amir expressing his readiness to enter into an agreement with him similar to that entered into with his father. The policy of the Government, however, prevented that being done, and that, I believe, was one of the main causes of the war. The Amir was alienated from us, with no hope of support from us, with no native agent of ours at his Court. He, therefore, received a Russian mission. Had he had a British native agent to consult, he would at once have communicated to us the course he desired to adopt, but that was rendered impossible for our native agent had been withdrawn. (Hear.) He could do nothing, therefore, but take the course he adopted. In these circumstances it would have been the right thing to have settled these matters in communication with Russia, and not with the Amir. During the war that could not have been done, but it could have been in July, when the Treaty of Berlin was signed and peace was established. Russia was asked no doubt, whether she would withdraw the mission; but he was surprised at the satisfaction expressed by the noble earl on the woolsack at the answer received to the question. In fact, having received no satisfactory answer, Her Majesty's Government went to war with Affghanistan. The Government might, I believe, have come to satifactory understanding with Russia in reference to the Russian mission; but they did not press the matter, and the result is the present unsatisfactory state of things.

We are inclined to agree with Lord Northbrook on this point. If our Government had addressed Russia on the subject of the mission before making an open breach with the Amir, and if it had offered the Amir the guarantee he had so long wanted, the war might have perhaps been averted. But the attitude of H. M's Government towards Russia has since changed. Read the following apology of Lord Salisbury for Russia:

I accept the language used by noble friend behind me some weeks back when he said that a military invasion of India was almost impracticable. But it is not a military invasion of India that we have to fear; it is a diplomatic invasion of Afghanistan that we have to fear. (Hear, hear.) The noble lord who opened the debate to-night was apparently willing that Afghanistan should become, if necessary, a happy Russian hunting-ground. He was perfectly willing that it should be entirely occupied by Russians, and he had no fear of any results which might follow. My lords, we are not in secret executive session, as the Senate of the United States would be in under similar circumstances, and I cannot enter fully and freely in to the dangers which Russians established in Afghanistan and working with Afghanistan as their base as they worked in Bulgaria and in Bosnia would bring about. (Hear.) In dealing with the Russian Government, you have undoubtedly to make considerable allowances. That Government is not organized as other Governments are. You constantly meet with this phenomenon, that what is done by the Generals or the Ambassadors at one place is not known to the Government at St. Petersburg or by the Generals or Ambassadors at another. At the very time when General Kaufmann was negotiating with the Amir, Prince Gortschakoff was denying that any thing of the kind was going on. (Hear.) At the very time that the last embassy of which we complained was crossing the Oxus, M. de Giers was saying to Lord Augustus Loftus that no mission was being sent. (Hear, hear.) I know it is the fashion to attribute all these discrepancies simply to insincerity. I say—and I do so with absolute sincerity—that I do not believe that this is true explanation, and, if for no other reason than to pay regard to the honourable character of those concerned, I should say that if they were inclined to deceit, they would not venture on such clumsy deceit. (Hear, hear.) The truth is that, Russia a vast empire in which the whole of the cares of the State are thrown on the central Government, is administered practically at the will of one man alone, who like other men, is subject to interruptions of health, to distractions of business, and who probably finds it difficult to struggle against the work which he has to do; so that that unity of policy which in other countries where there is a Cabinet of Ministers who meet together and govern in unison is easily attained in Russia is difficult to arrive at. The departments appear to act separately. The Foreign Office does not know what the War Department is doing, and one section of the Foreign Office is not always in communication with another section. I make these observations in order to clear myself from using any language which from all of us would be unfitting, and which would, perhaps, from me be practically unfitting, in derogation of the sincerity of of the Russian Government. But still you have the fact that, whether by orders or without orders men go forth into any country which borders on any Russian territory to the task of organizing it in Russian interest; they command its armies, they erect its forts, they guide its diplomacy, they shape its counsel; and this unauthorized diplomatic invasion was the danger that we had to fear in Afghanistan. (Hear, hear.) Now, it was of no use talking about plunging the whole world in war, as Lord Lawrence said, to cure such an evil as that; it was no use sending home suggestions about remonstrances, as the Government of Lord Northbrook did. Remonstrances at St. Petersburg are of no avail to stop a danger such as that.

We are surprised that Lord Salisbury made such an *admis ericordiam* defence of Russia. The truth would seem to be that our Government was not prepared to tackle Russia. But we are humbly of opinion that if it had at the outset dealt firmly with Russia, probably the Amir would have given in. A war is sure to arise between Russia and England on the plains of Asia some day or other, and Lord Beaconsfield has simply put off the evil day.

THE COST OF THE AFFGHAN WAR.

IN making his motion that India should defray the expenses of the Affghan war Lord Cranbrook said:

As to the question of the use of the Indian revenue, I do not know that much need be said. If the House consents to the revenues of India being applied to defray the expense of these operations, it will not follow from such consent that Parliament would be prevented from contributing to the cost of those operations; but I am bound to say, after looking very carefully into the financial condition of India, I believe it will not be necessary, at least in the initial steps, to call on the revenues of England. I am in possession of facts which, I think, would convince your lordships that, without unduly pressing on the revenues of India, there will be no necessity to call on the English revenue—at least, during the present financial year. (Hear, hear.) It was announced by my noble friend in another place the other night that, including the £1,500,000 of new taxes the surplus of Indian revenue will amount to £2,136,000. The revenue has exceeded the estimate. In opium the increase is £12,45,000 Looking into the different calculations made on the subject the supposition of the Indian Government is that during the present financial year the cost of the operations will not exceed £1,100,000 or £1,200,000. Take it at £2,250,000 and

there would remain then a substantial surplus of about £500,000 after the payment of the charges for the expedition. (Hear, hear.)

The statements since published by the India Office have contradicted the figures of Lord Cranbrook, and we may therefore pass by the plea that the flourishing condition of Indian finance facilitated the course proposed by Government. Strange to say, we repeat, no other speakers dwelt upon this subject. Lord Northbrook did not however overlook it. His Lordship said at the outset:

I entirely agree with my noble friend who recently filled the office of Governor of the Presidency of Madras in regretting the course Government have taken in appropriating the revenues of India to meet the expenses of the campaign. It would have been right, just, and generous to have decided at once that no portion of the expense should fall upon the revenues of India. I consider the war to be the direct consequence of the state of affairs in Europe, and not to have arisen from anything connected immediately with our Indian Empire. (Hear, hear.) For that reason India should not be called upon to bear the cost of it. Moreover, India has suffered greatly from two severe famines; the people are impoverished; and the state of finances is far from satisfactory. True, the Indian Government expects a surplus of a million and a quarter above the estimates this year, and this is exactly what I anticipated in the discussion of last year. The reason of this surplus is the extra taxation unnecessarily imposed upon the people of India for the purpose of raising what is called a Famine Fund. The extra taxes which press upon the poorer classes and which I believe to be unpopular and impolitic, ought to be taken off as soon as the finances will allow.

In the House of Commons Mr. Fawcett questioned the Under-Secretary of State for India on the subject of the Affghan war expenditure and was thus answered by Mr. Stanhope:

Mr. E. Stanhope said the expenditure was incurred on the authority of the Secretary of State. The matter was fully considered in 1869, and the Duke of Argyll speaking in the House of Lords on behalf of his Government, said:—

"It is the opinion of all whom I have consulted, including the law officers of the Crown, that under the present statute it is unquestionably in the power of the Secretary of State for India to order in India any service which may appear to be required. Payment for this service is made in India and the disallowance of that payment is not competent to the Council without the sanction of the Secretary of State.

On another day Mr. Fawcett asked the Under-Secretary of State for India whether the consent of the Council of the Secretary of State for India had been obtained to any of the expenditure hitherto incurred in connection with the military expedition against the Amir of Afghanistan; if so, when this consent was obtained and whether it was unanimous; whether any opinions had been recorded by the Council as to the justice of throwing these charges upon the revenue of India; and, if so, whether there would be any objection to lay the record of these opinions before Parliament. Mr. Stanhope said in reply that on December 3 a proposal came before the Council of the Secretary of State for increasing the Native army in India. It was agreed to by an unanimous vote. Since that time certain opinions and reasons had, he understood, been prepared, but they had not yet been recorded in the proceedings of the Council. When that had been done, if Mr. Fawcett liked to move for them, there would be no objection to their production. Mr. Fawcett said that what he wanted to know was whether the assent of the Council of the Secretary of State had been obtained to any of the expenditure hitherto incurred. Mr. Goschen inquired whether the Council of the Secretary of State for India had been consulted on any single point connected with the outbreak of the war before Dec. 3. Mr. Stanhope said that perhaps the right hon. gentleman would give notice of that question. In answer to Mr. Fawcett, he had to say that there was but one occasion on which dissents were handed in, and that when they were entered, it Mr. Fawcett moved for them, they would be produced. Mr. Fawcett repeated that his question related to expenditure hitherto incurred. Mr. Stanhope said the assent of the Council of the Secretary of State was not necessary in any case which had yet occurred. A further discussion was promised, but nothing has come out of it.

Such has been the fate of India in the House of Commons on this momentous question. We cannot adequately express our grief that in a matter of such vital importance to India the representatives of the English nation were silent almost to a man in debating on the Vote of Censure. They talked of the past, criticized each other about the part the two political parties of England had taken respectively in this Affghan business, and in fact carried on a bitter party strife. But they did not spare one thought upon the poor millions of India, whose pockets would be taxed to defray the cost of the war. As the Bengali adage has it, when two rival kings fight, the ulu grass suffers. The great political parties of the United Kingdom are at daggers drawn with each other on the Affghan Question, but the poor Indians are made to bleed. The war is now a *fait accompli*; no discussion, arguments, or oratory can recall what has already been done, but the question is whether India should be taxed for the sake of the ambition of Her Majesty's Government. It would seem that with the exception of two or three individuals no other persons took any interest in the matter. Even Mr. Gladstone was silent about it. The whole strength of the debate was concentrated upon points of party politics. The speakers attacked their mutual political opponents with great zeal eloquence and zest, regardless of the consequences to the millions whose hard-earned means are to be applied to the defrayal of the cost of this pleasant pastime. So much for the interest, which Parliament takes in the welfare of India.

Neither in law nor in equity is India bound to defray the cost of the Affghan War. We do not simply plead our poverty. In fact poverty cannot be considered a just plea, if the legal and moral responsibility of India to pay the cost of the war be admitted. We repeat as we have so often urged that under the Parliamentary statute India is not bound to defray the expenses of the Affghan War. It is a war not undertaken within the frontier of India. There had been no invasion of the Indian frontier, and Lord Salisbury himself admitted that such an invasion was impracticable. When such is the case, with what fairness can India be called upon to bear the cost of the war, seeing that the Parliamentary statute is distinctly against it? Again, in equity India is not bound to pay. It is not denied that the scientific frontier as Lord Beaconsfield calls it is needed to keep Russia off. The whole gist of the matter is whether Russia should overshadow Asia, or whether both Russia and England should rule in this continent. Russia is aggressive, and England wishes to stop her onward march. It was admitted in the debate in the Lords that Russia had sent troops to Central Asia to fight England on her Indian frontier when there was a rumour of a war with her in Europe. Both Lords Salisbury and Beaconsfield said that the object of the scientific frontier was to prevent such a possibility in future. The origin of the war was thus distinctly the exigencies of England's European policy, and yet India is to be taxed for this purpose. Is this right, is this just? It is said that the British empire comprises India as a component part, and that it ought therefore to contribute to imperial necessities. We could understand this position, if the basis of the new imperial programme were clearly defined. If England wants contributions from her imperial dependencies for imperial purposes, let her say so, but in pursuing this new policy no invidious distinction should be made. Let not India alone be taxed, and the colonies be spared. Up to this moment England bears a part of the cost of garrisoning the colonies, but India not only pays for her own garrison but also for wars undertaken for imperial purposes. It is against this unrighteous policy we protest. Parliament has been again prorogued, but we hope all India will unite and submit a respectful remonstrance when it re-opens.

THE AFFGHAN PAPERS.

THE LONG-EXPECTED Affghan correspondence has at last been published. It throws a flood of light on the conduct of the relations between the British Government and that of Afghanistan since the accession of the Amir Shere Ali Khan. The correspondence commences with the text of the Treaty concluded on the 30th March 1855, between Dost Mahomed and the East India Company, and closes with Lord Cranbrook's despatch of the 18th November last. The Conservatives seek to make out that Shere Ali was the injured person up to 1873, while the Liberals contend that he has been the injured person ever since. But the recently published Afghan Papers prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that in conducting the relations of the British Government with Shere Ali Khan both Conservatives and Liberals made a mess of the business, and that, in point of fact, the Amir has been the injured person since his accession to the Throne of Afghanistan. The time covered by the correspondence now before the public, may be conveniently divided into 3 periods of five years each, the first period begins with the death of Dost Mahomed and ends with the establishment of Shere Ali at Kabul. The second period comprises the next five years from the Umballa conference between Shere Ali and Lord Mayo to the Simla conference between Lord Northbrook and Syed Noor Mahomed the Kabul Envoy. The third period covers the last five years from the formation of Lord Beaconsfield's Administration to the declaration of War against Shere Ali. We shall endeavour to show that in each of these three periods the Afghan affairs were grossly mismanaged by the Indian Government as well as Her Majesty's Government, and that this mismanagement has brought about the War now undertaken.

Shere Ali had been nominated heir-apparent by his father in September 1858, on the death of his elder brother Gholam Hyder; and by the advice of Lord Lawrence, then Chief Commissioner of the Punjab, the nomination had been recognized by Lord Canning's Government. In recognizing this nomination, Lord Canning had expressed a hope "that the new heir-apparent would, under the tuition of his father, learn to conduct the Government with the same wisdom and success." On the death of Dost Mahomed in June 1863, Shere Ali, as a matter of course, succeeded to the throne, and the first thing he did was to intimate his accession to the guddee to the Government of India. There was a considerable delay in formally recognizing him as Amir of Cabul. Indeed, he was not acknowledged as ruler of Afghanstan until December 1863, when Sir William Denison was acting as Viceroy in the interregnum between Lord Elgin's death and Lord Lawrence's arrival. When Shere Ali notified his accession to our Government, Lord Elgin forwarded his letter to Sir Charles Wood (now Lord Halifax), the then Secretary of State for India, and added that as a contest for power between the sons of the late Amir seemed imminent, he would await further information from Kabul before formally acknowledging the new Amir. This contest afterwards broke out, and although Shere Ali had adhered to the alliance that existed between his father and the British Government and had given no offence to the latter, Lord Lawrence's Government decided to maintain a strict neutrality between the contending parties in Affghansthan. This was the first and most serious blunder committed by the British Government, to which all subsequent troubles were due. Sir Henry Rawlinson, in his article in the December number of the *Fortnightly Review*, justly observes that the Amir's irritation originated from the policy followed by Lord Lawrence's Government. The Affghan correspondence fully supports Sir Henry's view of the case. But it should be borne in mind that the course of action, or rather inaction, adopted by Lord Lawrence, was approved by the late Lord Derby's Government, Sir Stafford Northcote being then Secretary of State for India. Lord Lawrence was not content with merely withholding all support from Shere Ali. He actually acknowledged Mahomed Azim Khan as the Amir of Kabul and Kandahar when his authority was established in those provinces, while continuing at the same time to recognize Shere Ali as ruler of Herat. The effect, which this policy had upon the mind of Shere Ali whose nomination as heir-apparent to the throne of Affghansthan had been recognized by Lord Canning's Government, and who himself had given no offence to the English, might be better imagined than described. The alienation of Shere Ali from the British Government really began long before 1873, and for that alienation both Lord Lawrence and Lord Derby's administration were responsible.

We now come to the second period. When Shere Ali by his unaided exertions had made

good his authority throughout Affghansthan, he was invited to Umballa, and a grand reception was given to him. Lord Cranbrook would have the public believe that what passed at Umballa was sufficient to allay the ill-feeling that had been caused by Lord Lawrence's refusal to support him in his struggle against the pretenders to the throne, which was his right. But this statement is not borne out by the Affghan correspondence. Lord Mayo wrote: "One of the most urgent and prominent demands made by the Amir at Umballa was that we should recognize and acknowledge not only himself, but his lineal descendants against all comers and under all circumstances. On every occasion that he brought the subject forward, the Viceroy declined to entertain it. At the further conference that took place between His Excellency [Lord Mayo] and the Amir, he (the Amir) declared that it was his earnest wish that the Government of India should recognize and acknowledge not only himself but his lineal descendants, or successors in blood; and this phrase he repeated several times with great earnestness and emphasis. He explained again, and at some length, that merely to recognize the ruler *pro tem* and *de facto* was to invite competition for a throne and excite the hones of all sorts of candidates; *that if the Government would recognise him and his dynasty, there was nothing he would not do in order to evince his gratitude, and to comply with the wishes of the Indian Government in every particular, and support them with his means and his life, it being understood that the slightest failure on his part or his descendants should vitiate all engagements in ours.*" The italics are ours. But the demand so earnestly and urgently made by the Amir was not complied with; all that Shere Ali could get out of Lord Mayo at Umballa on this point was "that it was impossible to prophesy or to anticipate events; that we must deal with the present and that His Highness could not expect him to enter into any engagement as to a state of circumstances which might never occur." It would be idle to assume that Shere Ali went back from Umballa to Kabul perfectly satisfied with the British Government. He was no doubt pleased with the grand reception given to him, but then the refusal of Lord Mayo to bind the British Government to meet his most urgent and prominent demand was wrapped in his breast. He knew that what he earnestly wished had not been given him. It is very likely that Shere Ali would have consented to the reception of British officers in his territories, had the English Government in its turn bound itself to recognize him and his lineal descendants. The policy followed in 1869 was merely a repetition of the blunder committed by Lord Lawrence; and as the Liberals were then in power in England, they must take their fair share of the responsibility for the estrangement of Shere Ali. As for the negotiations of 1873 between Lord Northbrook and the Cabul Envoy Syed Mir Mahomed, we do not attach much importance to them. The late Viceroy, in his recently published Memorandum, points out that what the Amir wanted in 1873 was *an unconditional guarantee of protection against foreign aggression*; and this no British Government in its senses could grant. It is absurd to assume, as Lord Cranbrook does, that Shere Ali would in 1873 have accepted the terms, which were offered him through Sir Lewis Pelly at Peshwar in the spring of 1877; and this is sufficient to dispose of the matter satisfactorily.

The events of the third period now demand our attention. The Affghan Papers show that as soon as the Conservatives came into power they instructed Lord Northbrook to press the Amir to accept British officers. The late Viceroy rightly protested against this course. He knew well that the Amir after having refused Sir Douglas Forsyth to pass through Kabul on his way back from Yurkund, would not accede to the proposal of receiving English agents. He knew, too, that solemn pledges had been repeatedly given to Shere Ali that he would not be required to accept British officers. But the acceptance of the agency condition was withdrawn as the *sine qua non* of friendly intercourse between the British Government and the Amir. In the beginning of 1876 Lord Salisbury suggested a temporary or special mission to Kabul, and Lord Northbrook again declined to be the instrument of the new policy. This is very probably one of the main causes of his Lordship's premature retirement from the Viceroyalty. Lord Lytton was then selected to execute the policy of which his predecessor had declined to be the instrument. The new Viceroy sent for the Nawab Atta Mahomed Khan, the Vakeel at Kabul, who reached Simla in October 1876. The Vakeel represented to His Excellency that the Amir was not only alienated from the British Government, but also that he was in close and confidential relations "with the only other Power that can ever cause serious danger to our power in India." The Vakeel also told the Viceroy "that the Amir, though strongly disinclined to admit British officers into any part of Affghansthan, would probably, if the point were pressed, accept such a condition rather than forfeit the advantage of a long-desired alliance with the British Government, upon terms certain to strengthen his personal position at home, about which his Highness was chiefly anxious." Lord Lytton believed in these representations, and arranged for the Peshwar conference. His Lordship, a new comer to the country, had no idea of the feelings of profound suspicion and distrust with which the English are looked upon by the Asiatic sovereigns and peoples. He was under the impression that the presence of "earnest, upright English gentlemen" would be welcome to the oppressed subjects of the Amir, if not to the Amir himself. His proper course would have been first to win the confidence of Shere Ali and to convince him that the British Government entertained no designs against his independence; but instead of doing so, His Lordship adopted a policy which filled the Amir with alarm; Sir Lewis Pelly distinctly told the Amir's Envoy at Peshwar that until the agency condition was accepted, there would be no basis for negotiation. Shere Ali, of course interpreted this new policy into an attempt to reduce him to the position of a vassal of the British Government. This is how the Affghan difficulty arose. We trust the above analysis of facts shews clearly and satisfactorily that for the creation of the present difficulty the blundering of the Conservatives and of the Liberals is responsible in almost equal degrees.

THE VALUE-PAYABLE PARCEL SYSTEM.

THE position of the Government of India is certainly exceptional, but surely it cannot be consistent with its functions to compete with the private trader in any form whatever. The British empire in the East was founded by a company of merchant princes, but the East India Company gave up commercial transactions as they acquired sovereign power. The only trace of the early commercial character of British sovereignty in India yet left is the opium monopoly, but this monopoly is intimately bound up with the vital interests of India. It brings in more than six crores of revenue annually to the relief of the Indian tax-payers, and is therefore a national advantage. In all other respects the Government of India has left the course of trade quite unfettered. Is it consistent with the avowed policy of commercial neutrality pursued by Government to convert the Post Office into a carrier, the exchange and commission agent, and bill collector of the London Tradesman? The Government assigns three reasons for the new functions it has assumed, 1stly that the measure will prove a public boon, 2ndly that it is a legitimate work of the postal service, and 3rdly that it has the sanction of the example of European states. With regard to the first the Government says that it has consulted merchants, planters and Railway companies, and that they all approve of it, and that according to the testimony of the commanding officers of regiments it is calculated to prove a great boon to the army. There can be no doubt that this measure will benefit a certain class of the public, that is to say Government officers, soldiers, merchants, planters, and others, who have cash dealings. They will receive goods at London prices, and will necessarily benefit. But the question is whether the saving to a body of private individuals we have mentioned above is conducive to the general interests of the community at large. If the Government takes away the best customers from the Indian trader, and leaves to him the bad lot, who do not know what punctual payment is, how can he subsist? The European trader in India performs a most important function. He is the pioneer of civilization and improvement. Although he comes here to make money, he necessarily benefits those aimed whom he is placed. He employs a large number of natives in carrying on his operations. He introduces new inventions, new tastes, new fashions. But it is not the European trader only, who is affected by the measure under comment. The Indian trader is equally interested. There is a large number of natives not in the Presidency towns only but also in the Mofussil, who are engaged in trade in Europe goods, and they will suffer in common with the European trader. The Government says that the practical operation of the new system cannot be injurious to the Indian trader, because the limitations made, viz. weight 6lbs and value £10, will considerably limit its scope. True, but it is forgotten that the limitations mentioned will not necessarily prove so restrictive as is imagined. The maximum amount of remittance by a single money order is Rs. 100, but are not thousands of rupees remitted by breaking them into hundreds? In the same way the limitations prescribed for value-payable parcels will be taken advantage of. So that this excuse of the Government will not have much practical significance. With regard to the second reason we submit that it is not the legitimate duty of the Post Office to serve as the commission agent and bill-collector for the tradesman. It is the public carrier, and if the trader wishes to avail himself of this means of conveyance under general rules, he is quite welcome to do so. But why should the Post Office collect money for the trader, why should it charge commission for such collection, and why should it undertake agency business by returning the goods to the sender, if the same are not received and paid for in cash? This in our humble opinion is a prostitution of the functions of the PostOffice. The second question leads to the third. The Government says that the new system has the sanction of European example. We are told that as regards the argument, viz., that it is not the duty of the Post Office to provide such a convenience, "the Governor-General in Council observes that this is not the view taken by some of the most enlightened postal administrations in Europe, and, notably, by that of Germany, which has taken a prominent part in the recent improvement of international postal relations. The German Post Office has not only a large inland service of this kind, but also considerable exchanges, under the "value-payable" system, with the principal countries of Europe. Even when the post-office of the foreign country has no parcel post (as in the case of Great Britain and some other of the countries mentioned), the German Post Office has arranged with private carrying Agencies for the exchange of parcels upon the "value-payable" system. The Austrian service of "value-payable" articles, though smaller in numbers than the German service, is greater in aggregate value, as will be seen from the figures given on the margin. No statistics of the operations of the Swiss Post Office in this respect are at hand; but that country has not only an inland "value-payable" service, but also similar services with Germany, Austria, and France." To this the best reply is given by the Madras Trades' Association, which says:

"The Association is unable at present to ascertain in what European countries the "value-payable" system has been made to embrace *international* operations; but it is submitted that this can scarcely be considered to be the case—should this system obtains merely between the many small states now forming part of the German Empire—nor even should Austria be included in the system, for, in habits and custom, general circumstances, language, products, and manufactures, all Germany and Austria, and even Switzerland, may, *mutaties mutandis*, and for the present purpose be taken to represent one nationality. The Association is not aware that this system obtains between France and Germany, or between Italy and France, or between any two countries of distinctly dissimilar nationalities and systems of Government. Certain it is, however, that this system does not exist in England, and this Association very confidently ventures to assert that its introduction internationally

between England and European foreign countries or America can never be attempted. The Madras Association desires to point out that there should enter into this question an element of reciprocity and of mutual advantage which ought not to be lost sight of, and without which the arrangement must always be one-sided and unfair,and cannot be introduced except to the wrongful loss and damage of the side least favorably circumstanced. It is not difficult to imagine the reception with which any proposal would be greeted in England,whereby the silks and velvets of France, the numberless productions of Paris, and the cheap manufactures of Germany, might be imported direct through the Postal Agency into England, and the foreigner be guaranteed his money or the safe return of his goods. It is the conviction of the Madras Trades' Association that the mere mooting in England of such a proposal as the introduction of the "value-payable" system between England and the Continent or America, would be scouted from one end of Britain to the other, as a gross perversion of the duties of a large State department, and as a direct and unjustifiable interference with the vested interests of trade, and contrary to all sound principles of justice and political economy.

No one with any experience of the Continent of Europe will contend that the English tradesman, per contra, would be able, with any success, to offer English productions on the Continent, but still he would be in a better position than the tradesman in India, who has practically nothing whatever to offer to an English public, and consequently can in no way compensate himself for a diminished trade which must manifestly and inevitably follow upon a section of the Indian public being supplied direct by London tradesmen.

The point at issue has been rightly hitted off by the Madras Trades' Association Where the value-payable parcels system has been introduced in Europe, there is reciprocity, but there is little prospect of reciprocity between England and India. There are few Indian productions, which the Indian trader can offer to England, and which from their weight and size can be carried with advantage through the Post Office. India sends bulky goods to England, and these cannot be transported by the Post Office. The Government of India admits that the delivery of parcels, excepting books and samples, has never been admitted into the British postal system, but it contends that it is not because there is any objection on principle but because there are private agencies, which carry on this business. Why should not the same work in India be left to private enterprise? If a powerful state department be set in competition with private agencies, the latter must go to the wall, and should the Government deliberately adopt such a manifestly injurious course? It is also observable that the Government by undertaking this business will sacrifice to a certain extent the customs revenue.

There is another reason why the Government should pause and consider the course it has adopted. The London tradesman has no claim to its consideration whatever. He does not contribute to the Indian revenue; he does not come out to India; all his profits from India are spent in England; he is in that sense a "foreigner" to India, and should our Indian department, which is maintained by the Indian revenue, be employed for the benefit of the "foreigner" to the positive detriment of the Indian trader? The facilities of communication, which now subsist between England and India, have greatly benefitted the English tradesman. Europeans residing in India now-a-days not unfrequently pay short visits to England and take this opportunity to make purchases. Of course there could be no reasonable objection to such a legitimate use of the opportunities offered to the public in the course of general progress, but is it just that a Government department like the Post Office should go out of its way to accommodate on the one hand a number of private individuals and on other hand the London tradesman to the serious injury of the Indian trader and necessarily of the Indian community in general? Viewing the question from an Indian point of view we consider the measure under notice uncalled-for, ill-judged, and injurious to the best interests of India.

THE ARMS ACT.

THE Governor General in Council has issued the rules for the enforcement of the new Arms Act. The following is the list of exemptions:

(1) all Maharsjahs, Rajahs, Nawabs, Members of any Order of Knighthood; all persons bearing a title conferred by the Government of India; all persons who have been granted a sword in public Durbar; all persons who received certificates on the 1st January 1877; all persons who are exempted from personal attendance at civil courts;

(2) all Members or ex-members of the Council of the Governor General or of the Governors of Madras or Bombay, or of the Lieutenant-Governor's Council;

(3) all military and naval officers, postal officers, all soldiers sailors, volunteers, police officers, forest officers, jail officers, serving the Government.

(4) all Magistrates, Justices of the Peace, Honorary Magistrates and judicial officers of or above the rank of Munsif;

(5) all European and East Indian subjects of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress; all Armenians; and all Americans not British-born subjects of Her Majesty who are temporarily residing or travelling in India;

(6) all Consuls, Consular Agents, all duly accredited Vakeels or Agents of Native States;

(7) all Ruling Chiefs with their retinues, on the occasions of their entering or residing in British India; and all officials of such Chiefs passing through British India on duty;

(8) all pensioned officers of the Native Army and pensioned officers of the civil departments who when employed were exempt;

(9) the retainers of—

(a) the ancient zemindars and poligars of the Madras Presidency.

(b) the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Sirdars;

(c) the Maharajah of Bulrampore, K.C.S.I.,
the Maharajah of Benares,
the Rajah of Gursahai,
the Rajah of Jaumanpore,
the Rao of Gopalpura;

(d) the great Sirdars and Jagirdars of the Punjab;

(e) the zemindars of the scheduled districts in the Central Provinces;

subject to such orders as the respective Local Governments may issue regarding personages to be included in these categories, or the numbers of retainers in each case;

(10) landholders and members of Municipal Committees of approved loyalty and of good position, according to lists that may from time to time be issued by the respective Local Governments;

(11) all heads of villages, ghatwals, dighwars and other rural police;

(12) Thoogyes, Yazawut-goungs, Kyadangees in British Burma;

(13) all persons of Coorg race; and all jumma tenure-holders in Coorg who by their tenures are liable for police and military duties;

(14) all subjects of the Baroda State who may transport arms or ammunition from one part of Baroda territory to another part of the same territory under a license granted by the Resident or Assistant Resident of Baroda;

(5) all revenue officials and postal runners in frontier or wild districts, where the superior departmental officers direct them to carry arms on duty.

We again protest against the invidious distinction made between Europeans and Indo-Europeans and Indians in the application of the law. The European British subject, as the governing class may well claim exemption, but in point of loyalty and attachment to the British Crown the Indians do not yield one jot to them. Then again on what principle have the East Indians and Armenians been exempted, but no other classes of Indians? Under the Parliamentary statute for employment in the Civil Service the East Indians are regarded as natives of this country, and are to be so treated, but in this notification they are classed with the Europeans. Are we to understand that the Natives of Bengal, Madras, Bombay or other well-affected parts of India are less loyal than the East Indians. Again, the Armenians as a body are exempted? We cannot believe that this exception is due to the influence of our popular Advocate General Mr. Paul, but it is strange that while the Armenians as a body have been exempted from the operation of the law, the Jews are not. Of course individual members of the Jewish community will be exempted, but the class is placed under ban. Are we to understand that the Jews in India are less loyal than the Armenians? Are the Gubbays, the Ezras, the Sassoons, less loyal than the Apcars, the Bagrams and the Pauls? The same remarks apply to the Parsis; their loyalty has never been questioned, and yet as a body they are included in the ban. In the same way the whole body of native Indians, whose loyalty is undoubted, and has cheerfully and frequently been testified to by the highest authorities here as well as in England, are brought under this grave political disability. We do not care for individual exemptions; such exemption is no honor to them; when distrust is shown to the bulk of their countrymen for no good and valid reasons, the stigma cast upon their body is not wiped off by their personal exemptions. We say this with the greatest sorrow, for Her Majesty's loyal subjects in the well affected districts have done nothing to merit this serious reproach, this grave obloquy, this national odium, this political degradation.

Apart from the question of political ethics involved in this policy of Government, the practical injury to the people from this repressive measure will be serious. The Government itself publishes annual accounts of the depredations of wild animals upon human beings,cattle,and crops, in this country, and what will be the consequence when the people will be deprived of defensive weapons? It is true that they will be allowed to carry and use arms under license, but the restrictions are so many and harassing that the poor cultivators will be practically denied them. The notification exempts the following weapons from the operation of the law:

(a) spears of all kinds so far as regards the Presidency of Madras;

(b) weapons known as *kukris* and *dhaos* so far as regards the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal;

(c) weapons known as *dhars* so far as regards the Chief Commissionership of British Burma;

(d) swords, daggers spears, *kukris*, *dhaos* so far as regards the Chief Commissionership of Assam; and

(e) bows and arrows.

Only *kukris* and *dhaos* are exempted in Bengal. The spears even are not exempted, and so the poor cultivators will not be allowed to keep and use them without license, though wild boars may ravage their fields under their eyes. We are not sure whether sacrificial knives will be permitted to be used without a license, for knives are not mentioned in the list of exemptions. Again, in the list of exemptions of persons their servants are not included, and practically their exemption will amount to nothing. For as a matter of fact it is not they but their servants who carry and use their arms for their protection. The following tracts or districts are also exempted:

(a) all scheduled districts in the Madras Presidency from all prohibitions and directions save in respect to rifled arms and cannon, and except those directions contained in Sections 12 and 25;

(b) the Chittagong Hills Tracts of Bengal from the prohibitions and directions contained in Sections 13 and 14;

( ) all scheduled districts in the Lieutenant-Governorship of the Punjab except Hazara, and also certain tracts and villages on the Hazara frontier specially notified by the Local Government, from all prohibitions and directions contained in Sections 13 and 14;

(d) the Arracan Hill Tracts of British Burma from the prohibitions and directions contained in Sections 13 and 14.

May we ask why the other well-affected tracts are not exempted, when these tracts are excluded? Why this invidious distinction? Are the inhabitants of Chittagong Hill tracts, who are almost barbarians, more loyal than those of the district itself? We confess we do not understand on what principle the list of exemptions has been prepared.

We have neither time nor space to discuss the rules in this issue. We will take a cursory glance at one or two of them. Thus Rule 13 says:

Licenses to possess arms and ammunition in reasonable quantities and to go armed for purposes of sport, of protection, or of display, may be granted by the Magistrate of the District in Form VIII. Such licenses shall be liable to a fee of eight annas for each weapon in disarmed districts and to a fee of four annas for each weapon in districts which have not been disarmed. Such a license will authorise its holder to carry the arms described in the license on occasions when they may be reasonably required for the purposes named in the license. But the holder unless specially authorised by the Magistrate, must not go armed in railway carriages, to fairs, religious processions or other public assemblages. License granted under this rule shall on countersignature by the Commissioner of the Division or other officer authorised in this regard by the Local Government where there are no Commissioners, shall be valid for all the districts of the Local Government within the territories of which the license may have been granted.

It will be thus seen that the use of every weapon will be subject to a fee of four annas in all districts which have not been disarmed. The license will be annual, and the fee must be paid annually. In other words a new tax is to be imposed for the use of arms. And the poor cultivators, who stand in need of weapons for the protection of their persons, houses, and crops, from the ravages of wild beasts, will be subjected to this new tax. License to *possess* arms will be granted without fee under rule 15. Now this will affect only the rich, for it is they only who keep arms for show. But the poor must pay the annual tax for the *use* of arms. This is the even-handed procedure which the Government has adopted for the enforcement of the Arms Act!

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

LAST week we commended to our educated countrymen agriculture as a profession. We are

glad to observe that a step has been taken by Sir Richard Temple in Bombay to impart scientific education in agriculture. In a valuable minute Sir Richard has promulgated the considerations, which have moved him on the subject. These are as follows: "The need of agricultural science in this country, the backwardness of the people in the superior method of culture, the slow deterioration of the soil in many places from exhaustive processes, the want of restorative means and appliances, the probability that by improved husbandry the yield of the soil could be augmented." Sir Richard's plan is thus described by our contemporary of *Native Opinion*: The College Class is to be organized in connection with the Poona Engineering College. This class or College will afford scientific instruction in agriculture accompanied by experiments on the model of similar institutions in Europe and will be placed on an equal footing with the Arts Colleges affiliated with the University. The class will be open to matriculated students alone and the curriculum, which will be fixed by the Bombay University, will consist of a three years course entitling the successful students to a Degree. There will be in the College another class for unmatriculated students, who having undergone a two years course in the High School class and possessing a "School Certificate" may after undergoing a further course of two years in scientific agriculture be eligible to a "College certificate." An unmatriculated student in the college will, however, be eligible to the University degree if he should pass the matriculation in the meanwhile and complete the three years course. So much for superior instruction. With regard to elementary instruction we are told six school classes will be organized in connection with as many High Schools in the Presidency, three will be in Gujerath, one in Khandesh, and the remaining two in the Deccan. The High School curriculum which will include indoor and outdoor instruction will consist of a two years course. The Indoor curriculum will consist of five heads as under, and one hour will be devoted to it daily:—I. *Soils*: Origin, formation, distribution, tillage. II. *Manure*: Varieties, action, uses. III. *Crops*: Varieties, culture, uses. IV. *Stock*: Races, breeding, feeding, general management. V. *Implements*: Machines, tools, water-lifts. The Outdoor curriculums will consist of practice in the field of the principles taught in class books, one hour being assigned for this purpose every alternate day. Both Matriculated and Unmatriculated students will be admitted into this class. After two years study the students who may pass the examination to be held by the Poona Agricultural College will be furnished with a "School certificate" of proficiency. This certificate which besides carrying importance *per se* will entitle the holder to be admitted into the Poona College. Veterinary instruction will form a branch of studies of the High School classes, but there will be no outdoor experiments. There will be then a lower grade called Middle School Class. In this class instruction will be given through the vernacular in the elements of agriculture from text-books to be specially prepared, combined with experiments in the field upon a smaller scale. Besides this, some elementary instruction in agriculture will be imparted in every primary school as a subject of the school course. These will not have experimental farms attached to them, but hereafter it is intended to appoint itinerant lecturers, whose duty it will be to go from school to school lecturing and illustrating the things taught in the Agricultural Primer. The College and the High School Classes will have each an experimental farm to it comprising an area of six acres of land. The annual cost of the Agricultural College is estimated at Rs. 6,000 and of the other classes at Rs. 6,840 with an initial outlay of about Rs. 3,000. Ten scholarships from Rs. 5 to 10 each are to be awarded and competed for at the entrance examination and as many to be awarded to and competed for by those who have completed one year's study. The latter will range from Rs. 8 to Rs. 12 per month, the annual expenditure on this account amounting to Rs. 1896.

The above is a brief abstract of the Resolution of the Government of Bombay on the subject. We highly appreciate the object of the move made by Sir Richard Temple, and we wish that his example would be followed in the other provinces. India is an agricultural country, and it is anomalous that in the scheme of public instruction there is no place for agricultural instruction. About fifteen years ago Babu Joykissen Mookerjea submitted a proposal to Sir Cecil Beadon for the establishment of an Agricultural College in Bengal, offering at the same time to bear half the cost, if the College were thrown open to both general and professional instruction and were located in his own town Oterperah. After some official correspondence the proposal was consigned to oblivion. In the meantime the necessity for professional education for our countrymen has greatly increased, and it therefore behoves Sir Ashley Eden, who seems to be fully alive to the importance of the question, to direct his attention to it. He has already launched a scheme of mechanical instruction; may he not also make some provision for agricultural instruction? We do not pledge ourselves to all the details of Sir Richard Temple's Resolution, but it might be made a model for a similar scheme for Bengal.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

JUST as we were going to press we received the following important intelligence:

"Further telegram from General Stewart states that his army marched through Kandahar on the 8th without opposition."

WE ARE glad to learn that there is no truth in the rumour of the suicide of the Amir Shere Ali, which has reached our contemporary of the *Statesman*. The Government, we are told, has received no information on the subject. Nor has the other statement of our contemporary about scarcity of supplies for our troops at Quetta, we are informed, any foundation whatever. The rumours to which our contemporary gives circulation are so important and so much calculated to affect the money market that he would have done well by testing them through the Press Commissioner, the authorized channel of communication between the Government and the Press, before giving them currency.

IT IS currently believed that Sir John Strachey contemplates to impose an Income tax next year. We have not heard the details nor as to whether it will be in substitution of the present License tax. Probably the higher classes of the License tax schedule will be remitted and included in the proposed Income tax. We do hope that the Government will yet make an effort and try to save the country from the evils of an Income tax. In these hard times additional taxation cannot but be felt as a serious burden.

SOME mischievous and malicious wag has been taking liberty with the name of that devoted votary of Sarasvati, Roma Bai. He has been giving out that she has engaged to marry a Bengali graduate of the Calcutta University residing in the Central Provinces. She has been much distressed at this malicious attack upon her. She has written to the learned Principal of our San-krit College, Pundit Mohesh Chunder Nayaratna, to say that there is not a tittle of truth in the story, and that she has no intention of marrying. We hope this contradiction will set at rest all idle and malicious speculations about Roma Bai's marriage.

THE STUDENTS, who went up to the last examinations in the Calcutta University, are exceedingly disappointed in consequence of the non-appearance of the results in last Saturday's *Gazette of India*. The publication of the results has been somewhat delayed this year. We understand that out of about 2,566 candidates for the Entrance Examination about 1,200 or less than one half have passed, rather a satisfactory result, but we cannot say the same of the First Arts Examination. Out of 924 candidates for the First Arts Examination only 264 have passed. The Presidency College stands the first in the First Arts Examination.

MR. J. D. GORDON, Chief Commissioner, Mysore, who lately came to Calcutta on a visit to His Excellency the Viceroy, left on Friday last for his own province. Mr. Gordon's object was to settle with His Excellency the terms of the Treaty of Transfer, which will be executed between our Government and His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. His Highness is now about sixteen years of age, and will attain his majority at 18. Mr. Gordon is reorganizing the administration to keep it trim for the Maharaja. There will be a Political Resident at Mysore to advise the Maharaja on his assumption of the Raj.

THE GOVERNMENT of Bombay has recorded the following Resolution on the assessment of agriculturists under the License Tax Act:

"With regard to the exemption from the operation of the License Act of persons earning their livelihood solely by agriculture,' the words of the Act must be taken literally. The exemption does not apply to agriculturists who, having a surplus from the produce of their land barter or traffic with that surplus in any mercantile or commercial way. Cultivators or landowners dealing in agricultural produce are therefore to the extent of such dealing liable to the License Tax. It will rest with each Collector to decide, according to the circumstances of his district, what transactions should be held to constitute a dealing in agricultural produce. As regards the collection of the tax as individual amounts are small, they should be collected in one payment as laid down in Section X of the Act."

We do not clearly understand the ruling of the Bombay Government. The agriculturist must sell his produce, and he must take it to the market for that purpose. He may either sell it in a lump or by driblets as his necessities may require. Is he to be considered a trader on this account? If the agriculturist is to be regarded a trader, because he sells his produce, the exemption of agriculturists from the License Tax will amount to nothing. It is only when the agriculturist keeps a shop and carries on a regular trade, that is to say, buys and sells, he ought to be then assessed as a trader. We believe this equitable principle is followed in Bengal.

WE HEARTILY welcome the Hon'ble Syud Ahmed C. S. I. to the capital. The reader is aware that he has been honored with a seat in the Vice-Regal Council. The Syud is a profound oriental scholar, and well-versed in Indian law. He was for many years a distinguished member of the subordinate judicial service in the North Western Provinces. He will undoubtedly make a valuable acquisition to the Vice-Regal Council. The only drawback is that he is not acquainted with the English language.

WE HAVE received the proceedings of the inaugural meeting of the East Bengal Landholders' Association held at Dacca. We regret we cannot make room for the report *in extenso*, but we give the list of the Executive Committee:

"Nawab Ashanulla Khan Bahadur. President. Members:—Mirza Mahamad, Babus Shama Kant Banerji Chowdry, Gobind Chundra Roy, Ram Chundra Banerji, Protap Chundra Banerji, Radhica Mohun Roy, Brojendro Kumar Roy, Sree Nath Roy, Roop Lall Dass, Raghu Nath Dass, Mohini Mohun Das, Janoke Nath Roy, Bhugwan Chundra Roy, Jagut Chundra Roy, Gour Chundra Roy, Anand Chundra Roy, Kali Keshore Gooha, Koylas Chundra Sen, Radhica Romun Bysak, Lala Mitrajee Sing, Mr. M. David, Mr. W. Harney; and Syud Mahamed, Khajeb Mahamed Azgur, Babu Sree Nath Roy and Babu Poorna Chundra Banerji, Secretaries."

The movement is due chiefly to the public spirit of Newab Ashanoolla. We wish it every success.

WE ARE deeply grieved to announce the death of the first Native physician of Calcutta, Kaviraj Romanath Rai. A man of great erudition, uncommon common sense, wonderful skill, and most gentle and winning disposition he was the model of a physician. His diagnosis of diseases was remarkable for its accuracy and his medicines had not unfrequently marvellous effect. His tact and friendliness for the patient effected, we might say, half the cure. He took great interest in his profession. Although he had a very large practice, still he maintained a night school in his own house, at which he used to teach himself the ancient Hindu medicine to several students,

whom he also used to maintain at his own expe se. He was a very charitable man. Although his earnings amounted to between Rs. 2000 and Rs. 3000 per month, he used to spend almost the whole amount for the benefit of others, while he himself lived very sparingly. He used to support a large number of persons on his own establishment, and pay schooling fees to about 50 boys monthly, who studied in the Calcutta schools either for general or professional education. Poor patients of all castes and creeds from all parts of the country used to flock at his house, whom he treated and gave medicines free of charge. Bengal has sustained an irreparable loss in his death. Take him all in all we shall not look upon his like again. Among his pupils, Kaviraj Grish Chunder, who was his partner in his professional business, is a man of ability, and we hope he will try to keep up his extensive practice for the benefit of himself and the family of the lamented deceased, who we are sorry to learn have been left in a helpless condition in consequence of his too open-handed charity. Kaviraj Romanath received a Certificate of Honor on the Proclamation Day of 1877. He was about 55 years of age.

DEATH, it seems, has been busy since the commencement of the NewYear. This week it is our mournful task to record the death of no less than three worthy sons of Bengal, Babu Rashbehary Bose, Deputy Magistrate, Kaviraj Romanath Rai the first Native physician of Calcutta, and last though not the least Babu Amirtalal Mitra, son-in-law of the late Raja Sir Radhakant Bahadur. The last on the list was one of the first *alumni* of the Hindu College, and greatly distinguished himself by his literary attainments. He was the first native personal assistant to the Foreign Secretary, but the ways of the Foreign Office did not suit him. Nature meant him for the life of a hermit, and so he spurned the fortune, which ultimately fell into the lap of his relation and successor Raja Prosonnonarain DebBahadur. He devoted his life to literary pursuits, and delighted in historical and antiquarian researches. He greatly assisted his illustrious father-in-law Raja Sir Radhakant Bahadur in preparing that monument of scholarship and industry, the *Subdakulpa-druma*. A few years ago Babu Amirtalal Mitra took up his abode in the holy city of Benares, where he used to lead the life of a hermit. Simple as a child, gentle, high-minded, and devoted to study Babu Amirtalal Mitra approached the Indian student of the olden type. He was about seventy years of age. His eldest son, Babu Shamlal Mitra, is a well-known pleader of the High Court.

AT LAST Saturday's sitting of the Bengal Council there was a debate on the new Rent Bill. Only two Native members and His Honor the Lieutenant Governor spoke. One native member, while concurring in the general provisions of the Bill, argued at length against the proposal legalizing the transfer of the occupancy tenure. He viewed the question from the ryot's point of view. He endeavoured to shew that the measure instead of doing good will do harm to the ryot class. Babu Mohinimohnn Roy supported the speaker in a few words. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor answered in a bantering spirit. His Honor was somewhat surprised to see the first native speaker from his connection with the British Indian Association come forward as the champion of the ryot. We shall notice the debate when the report is published; in the meantime, we hope the zemindar and representatives of ryots in the Mofussil will not lose time in making their opinions and views upon the Bill known without delay. The Bill has been referred to a Select Committee for report within six weeks.

A TERRIBLE charge was laid against two sailors, who threw into the river a ship sircar on board their steamer, who had gone there to serve a letter. The sircar said that he would leave the steamer the moment the dak boat would come, but the sailors would not hear him and chucked him over-board. He was picked up by a tow-boat and thus saved. The sailors were arraigned before Mr. Nolan, the Joint-Magistrate of Alipore, for trial. According to the newspaper report of the trial the evidence was conclusive against the accused. The Police Inspector stated that the defendants had been pointed out by the Captain of the steamer himself. Babu Kallynath Mitter who appeared for the prosecution wished to sum up the evidence, but the Magistrate did not consider it necessary; this would imply that the Magistrate was quite satisfied with the evidence, when lo! he convicted the defendants and sentenced them each to a fine of about one month's pay, that is to say, George to a fine of Rs. 200 and Jameson Rs. 100, in default one month's rigorous imprisonment each. Mr. Nolan, the Joint-Magistrate, claims to be a strict and impartial officer; and when he passed such a wretchedly inadequate sentence we suspect he must have had some good reasons for it But judging from the newspapers report we can not help remarking that the sentence was a mere mockery. Here was a man, who was wantonly thrown into the river, and would have probably met with a watery grave if he did not know how to swim, and if the tow-boat had not come to his aid in time—all this was, however, accidental—and the sons of Neptune who had indulged in that dangerous sport, if sport it was, were let off with a fine amounting to about a month's pay! May not the poor sircar ask—is this British Justice?

WAR TELEGRAMS.

News received from General Roberts, dated the 6th instant states that he had marched to Yakubi on the 6th, and hoped to reach Matun the Khost Cantonment, distant about 2 miles on the 7th. Muhammad Akram Khan Deputy Governor of Khost came here to pay his respects with his attendants and principal Maliks. He has maintained order and will transfer to us the fort and his office records, believed to contain full information regarding revenues of Khost and Kurram. People seem reassured. We believe that attitude of Akram Khan is due to instructions received from Sirdar Wali Muhammad Khan, whose Deputy he is, and who recently sent Akram's brother from Kabul to reassure him. Akram Khan states that Wali Muhammad, six days ago, was at Zergoonshahr and Yakub Khan at Kabul. Kabulkhel Waziri Jirga is now in Camp and accompanies us to Matun.

Cavalry from Girui post attacked a party of the Waziri Marauders, killed two wounded one and captured forty men and much cattle. The fourth Cavalry and Detachment fourth Sikhs under Gowan also attacked Marauders and killed seventy men of Suleman Khel. Our loss one trumpeter naik killed, ten wounded including Captain Shepherd slight sword cut. A severe lesson has been inflicted on the raiders and troops so placed as perfectly to secure frontier though slight raids may occur at any time.

A telegram from Jamrud, dated 8th instant, states that the Pass perfectly quiet. Kambikhel have given in their adhesion. Tirak section of Kukikhel also come in given hostages for return of stolen telegraph wire deserting Abdulla Nur who remains in Tirak. There was dacoity by few hillmen from beyond frontier at Bai hamlet of Asori in Koush eleven head cattle carried off one man wounded.

Further details received of the suppression of Mahsud Waziri raiders show that the inroad upon Tonk only succeeded through the mishaviour of the native officer commanding the neighbouring out-posts who did not move out to protect the place or to cut off the retreat of the Mahsud. Major Macaulay Deputy Commissioner of Dera Ismail Khan took very energetic measures He collected a small force and attacked in the Gumah valleys Suleman Khels who had burnt one of our villages. There was a very smart skirmish. Captain Shepherd was wounded Captain Gowan had a horse killed under him, two of our men were killed and seven wounded. The enemy were at last broken having seventy killed.

A telegram from General Stewart, dated Camp Kushub, 8th and telegraphed from Gulistan Kerez on the 11th states: Shortly after marching yesterday morning I received intelligence that the Governor of Kandahar and all the officials except the Deputy Governor had fled towards Herat on the night of the 6th, taking with them the remains of Cavalry after disarming the Infantry. This news was shortly confirmed by a letter from the Deputy Governor proferring submission, and stating that he had taken measures to prevent disturbance, and awaited my arrival to make over the city. Our troops will march through the city tomorrow the 9th Population on line of march perfectly quiet Not the slightest attempt to molest Camp followers or plunder baggage since we left Pishen. Another message from General Stewart undated but probably despatched on the 6th or 7th reports that the advanced Cavalry brigade under General Palliser had encountered the enemy's cavalry about 600 strong on the previous day, and easily defeated them. Enemy's loss 34 killed and prisoners Our loss four men wounded The enemy fled through Debilaji towards Kandahar.

The total number of deserters from General Roberts' force since it was collected at Thull has been five, all trans-Frontier men. The casualties in action have amounted to 128 including four British officers killed and three wounded. 22 Camp followers have been killed, seven in action, seven in the Darwaza Pass. Four treacherously murdered while buying grain in a village in Khost professing friendship, and four stragglers probably killed for plunder. The telegraph line which has been laid between Thull and Kurram has been almost unmolested and hostility seems almost confined to the Mongul tribe and some fanatics of Khost.

From the Kandahar line we hear that a marauding party made two attacks on a detachment of our sepoys guarding the communication near Arambi. They were repulsed. Dera Ismail Khan frontier is now perfectly quiet. All quiet in the Khaibar.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	Rs.	As.	P.
Syud Kutubuddeen, Hajeepore	5	0	0
Honorary Secretary Shikarpore, N. I. Library	13	4	0
Head Master, Bolootee School	13	4	0
P. C. Mustofee Esq, Rungpore	10	0	0
Baboo Kally Coomar Sen, Champdany	3	4	0
,, Rahati Churn Banerjee, Noakhally	10	0	0
,, Bany Pershad Missra, Durbhanga	13	4	0
,, Mohendra Lal Sircar, Malanchi	1	0	0
,, Rama Nath Seal, Satkhira	13	4	0
,, Koomud Bundheo Bose, Nakhally	6	10	0
,, Gunga Narain Chatterjee, Chuprah	13	4	0
,, Sutio Prosunno Ghose, Chundernagore	13	4	0
,, Sarut Chunder Roy Choudry, Serajgunge	13	4	0
,, Hurro Chunder Ghose, Hooghly	10	0	0
,, Dwarka Nath Bhottacharjee, Monbazar	0	4	0
,, Nemy Churn Newgee, Cuttuck	6	10	0
,, Haran Chunder Biswas, Cachar	13	4	0
,, Mohendra Nath Bose, Berhampore	5	0	0
,, Annund Chunder Mullick, Rowjan	13	4	0
,, Poorno Chunder Das, Chittagong	6	10	0
,, Kally Coomar Sandyal, Mirzapore	10	0	0
,, Mutty Lal Sircar, Meherpore	10	0	9
,, Sreenath Chuckurbutty, Julpigoree	13	4	0
,, Obenash Chunder Ghose, Jehanabad (Gya)	15	0	0
,, Krishna Chunder Dutt, Patuakhali	15	0	0
,, Prosunno Coomar Mojoomdar, Chandpore	13	4	0
,, Taruck Nath Chatterjee, Bhatooria	10	0	0
,, Gonesh Chunder Chowdry, Bouleah	13	4	0
Baboo Lal Bahadoor, Ajaigarh	6	10	0
Kumar Bonowari Annund, Bahadoor, Bunowareebad	11	0	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*January* 8, 1879.

GENERAL.—Mr. Arthur Herbert Collins, who has recently been appointed to be a member of the Bengal Civil Service is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Burdwan Division, and is posted to the district of Bankoora.

3rd January.—Baboo Runga Lall Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Cuttack, is allowed leave for two months, under the rules in Chapter VII, of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 4th instant, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. J. Munro, Inspector-General of Police, Bengal, is allowed leave for two months and nine days, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. F. H. Pellow Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Hooghly is appointed to act as Inspector General of Police, Bengal during the absence on leave of Mr. J. Monro, or until further orders.

Mr. R. D. Hume is reappointed to act until further orders as Magistrate and Collector of Hooghly.

Mr. W. N. Campbell, Officiating Assistant Commissioner, Hazareebagh, is allowed leave for two months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 10th instant.

Mr. W. H. Page, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Jessore, is appointed to act, until further orders, as a Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the First Grade in the district of Sarun.

Mr. E. H. Ruddock Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pubna, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Magistrate and Collector of Jessore.

Moonshi Fazullah Khan, temporary Sub-Deputy Collector Chittagong, having returned to duty on the 14th instant, the unexpired portion of the privilege leave granted to him under orders dated the 4th September last is cancelled.

Mr. C. T. Metcalfe, C.S.I., reported his departure from India on furlough on the 17th ultimo.

Baboo Harakali Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Furreedpore, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X. (B. C.) of 1871.

Mr. J. F. Stevens, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII, Civil Leave Code.

The services of Mr. A. H. Warde-Jones, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in charge of the Jehanabad division of the Gya district, are placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, of this Government for the purpose of acquiring land for that department in the Patna, Shahabad, and Gya districts, vice Mr. G. C. M. Smith, deceased.

Mr. Warde-Jones is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X. of 1870 in those districts.

Moulvi Abdul Hye, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. S. Jacob, whose services have recently been placed at the disposal of this Government, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division, and is posted to the Sudder Station of the Rajshahye district.

Mr. C. F. Magrath, Officiating Magistrate and Collector Monghyr, is allowed furlough for ten months, under Section 12 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th March 1879, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it, together with subsidiary leave for twelve days under Section 24 (a) of the Code.

Mr. H. L. Harrison, Secretary to the Board of Revenue is allowed leave for 15 days, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

DISTRICT CHARITABLE SOCIETY.

The Residence of the Honorary Secretary to the above Society is at No. 18 Lall Bazar Street.

The Society is in urgent need of funds and contributions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by

J. LAMBERT,
Honorary Secretary.

10*th January* 1879.

NOTICE.

Persons exercising any Trade, Pofession or Calling, within the Town, are reminded that they should at once apply for Licenses, in accordance with the Third Schedule of Act IV. of 1876, for the year 1879, as all Licenses granted in 1878 expired on the 31st of December last.

Notice is hereby given that under Section 67 of Act IV. B. C. of 1876, Licenses for Carriages, Horses, Ponies or Mules kept within the Town, for the half-year commencing 1st January 1879, should be taken out at once. Parties failing to take out Licenses will be prosecuted without further notice.

	Per Half-year. Rs.	As.	P.
For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by two horses ...	12	0	0
If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage after the first, two-thirds of the above rate	8	0	0
For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by one horse, or pony or mule, or a pair of ponies or mules under thirteen hands ...	6	0	0
If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage after the first, two-thirds of the above rate	4	0	0
For every two-wheeled carriage	6	0	0
For every horse (*not a race horse,*) pony, or mule	6	0	0
For every race horse	12	0	0
For every pony or mule under thirteen hands	2	0	0

NOTE.—Animals under eleven hands in height, and carriages the wheels of which do not exceed twenty-four inches in diameter, are exempted.

By order.
S. D. SEIN
Assistant License Officer.

NOTICE.

Is hereby given, that the Registration of Carts, Hackeries, and other Wheeled Vehicles without springs, for the first half-year of 1879, will (under Section 83 of Act IV. B. C. of 1876) commence from the 1st of January 1879, and that a fee of Rs. 4 will be required at the time for each registration under Section 85 of Act IV. of 1876.

By order,
S. D. SEIN,
Registrar of Carts and Hackeries.

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

WANTED

Goods clerks, Booking clerks and Morse signallers. Apply to Traffic Superintendent, Northern Bengal State Railway Saidpur.

N. B. S. Railway Traffic Superintendent's Office, Saidpore, 7th January 1879. } G. M. DRURY, TrafficSuperintendent

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER'S OFFICE, DINAGEPORE DIVISION.

Notice to Contractors.

COAL.

Tenders are invited for Rubble screened coal suitable for brick burning at,—

Pubna	4,284 Mds.
Bogra	12,025 ,,
Rungpore.....	2,962 ,,
Julpigooree	8,240 ,,

2. Tenders may be for the coal at all or any one of these places.

3. Contractors to deposit earnest money in accordance with the provisions on back of Public Works Form No. 14M, but the money may be deposited in the office of the Executive Engineer 1st Calcutta Division, a deposit certificate accompanying the Tender.

4. Samples of coal must be laid before the Executive Engineer, 1st Calcutta Division for his approval, a certifiate of his having approved the same shall accompany the Tender.

5. Forms of Tender can be obtained from the office of the undersigned or from that of the Executive Engineer of the 1st Calcutta Division.

6. All Coal must be delivered by the 15th February 1879.

7. Tenders will be opened by the undersigned or his assistant at noon on the 15th January 1879. The undersigned does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

Executive Engineer, Dinagepore Division.
Dated Rungpore, 24th December 1878.

8. The Coal required for Rungpore, Julpigori and Bogra may be delivered at Sara Ghat within 200 feet of the place where the mineral train stands.

9. The Coal required for Pubna may be delivered at Dowgatchee on the bank of the Ganges or as near to Pubna as possible.

E. J. MEARA, C. E.

DISTRICT CHARITABLE SOCIETY.

The Office of the Society is at the Municipal Office, No. 4 Jaun Bazar Street.

The Society is in urgent need of funds, and contributions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by,

W. M. SOUTTAR,
Honorary Secretary.

The 2nd January 1879.

TO LET.

Premises No. 25, Kristodas Pal's Lane.

Apply to *Printer.*

WONDERFUL REMEDY FOR PILES.

An excellent newly discovered Patent Medicine for Piles and for all sorts of complaints arising therefrom, sold in bottles @ Re. 1-8, exclusive of Postage. To be had at Messrs. R. Scott Thomson and Co.'s Dispensary, Messrs. Chuckerbutty Sen's and Co., Imperial Druggist Hall and Doctor Baboo Opender Chunder Bose, Mirzapore, Machooabazar Street No. 86.

DIRECTIONS.—To be taken one chuttack daily early in the morning for 3 weeks after shaking the bottle.

K. P. C.

BIRTH.

At Azamgarh in the North-Western Province at 3 A. M. on the morning of the 6th December 1878. The wife of Baboo Bishnoo Chandra Moittra, Pleader, High Court, North-Western Provinces, of a son.

NOTICE

Baboo Krishna Gopal Chandra Audheryya, Zemindar of Maliara Perguna Bissenpur has for the 3rd time, offered a Primary Scholarship of Rs. 2 a month tenable for two years for boys of the North Bankoorah circle.

Bankoorah The January 1879. } R. M. WALLER. Magistrate and Vice President D. S. C. Bankoorah.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Messrs Mackenzie Lyall and Co. will sell by auction to the highest bidders, in the Exchange Commercial Sale Rooms, on Tuesday the 21st January 1879 :—An extensive and unusually varied Invoice of *Musical Instruments* comprising—Violins, Concertinas Accordeous, Flutes, Musical Boxes, Melodius, Harmoniums, Drums, Horns, Baujas, and a great variety of other articles, for full details vide catalogues on the day of sale.

J. CORFIELD & Co.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

Are the best substitute for the natural organs,
Securing, without the slightest pain or inconvenience, the greatest amount of ease and comfort.
They are the lightest, strongest, and most durable that can be produced, and are retained in the mouth without large and cumbersome plates, or unsightly wires and springs.
They admit of the perfect mastication of all kinds of food, they improve articulation, and completely remove that prematurely old appearance so apparent in the faces of those who had the misfortune to lose their natural Teeth.
Teeth stopped with Gold, Amalgam, and other fillings.
Repairs of all kinds executed at the shortest notice, *Teeth Extracted, Regulated, Scaled, or Filled with Gold or other stoppings.*
ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS.

Consultation free.

J. CORFIELD & Co.
11, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO

9, ESPLANADE ROW, CALCUTTA.

HAND PUMPS.

Cast-Iron Colonial Pumps, No. 93.

No.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Rs.	16,	17,	20,	23,	27-8,	32,	36 ea.
Price of Piping per foot ... As.	...	12,	Re. 1,	...	1-4		
Gallons Water, per minute ...	4,	6,	8,	10,	12,	13,	15

Hand Pumps No. 83.

	2½	3	3½	4 in.
Rs.	40,	55,	65,	75, each.
Price of Piping for do. Re.	1,	1-4,	1-12,	1-12, p. ft.
Gallons Water, per minute	12,	15,	18,	20.

The above Pumps are simply lift, and will draw water from a depth of 25 feet. We fit them (for convenience of constituents) with pipe of any length to that distance.

Cast-Iron Lift and Force Pumps.

	2½	3	3½	4 in.
No. 107 ... ... Rs.	80,	90,	105,	120.

By these Pumps one man can lift and force water to a distance of 50 feet, and upwards.

No. 218, Portable Double 5-inch Lift and Force Pump, with 25 feet.

Rubber Suction, and 30-feet Canvas Delivery Hose ... ... Rs. 950 0

This is a first-rate Pump for Irrigating by Hand-power; it is also an excellent Fire Engine.

Galvanized Wrought-Iron Portable Pumps.

No. 113, fitted on 3 legs, with 20 feet Indian Rubber Suction Hose ... Rs. 130 each.

No. 219, Pumps on Barrow, fitted with 25' 2" Suction and 30' 1¼" Delivery Hose ... Rs. 260 0

Ten per cent. discount off the above prices for cash.

By appointment,
To HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH DHEERAJ OF BURDWAN.

C. K. SEN & CO.

KOBIRAJ DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS,
Calcutta,
AYUR VEDA MEDICAL HALL
No. 146, *Lower Chitpore Road.*
C. K. SEN & CO'S
Dantashodhana Churna or celebrated Dentifrice.

The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

Price per Box 8 *Annas. Postage &c.,* 8 *Annas*
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN. & Co. 's
CURE FOR HYDROCELE

If the disease be of one years standing, the use of one box only of this medicine is sure to cure. If it be of long standing, the regular use of the medicines for a longer period will cure 90 cases out of 100, and it is warranted to remove all complications such as fever, debility &c. however long they may have existed. In also restores the virile powers which have been lost on account of the malady.

Price per box Rs. 2, postage & 8 annas.
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN. & CO.'S
Kuntalabrishya or World-famed Hair Restorer.

The regular use of this invaluable oil most certainly cures baldness and prevents the hair from falling off or turning prematurely grey. It cures diseases of the head and brain and strengthens weak and failing eyesight. It possesses a very sweet odour.

Price per Bottle Re. 1. *Postage &c.,* 10 *As.*
2 Bottles can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN & CO. 'S
Superior & Genuine Makaradhwaja.

This is one of the most potent medicines of the Hindu Pharmacopœa, never fails to produce the most satisfactory results in cases of debility from whatever cause arising seminal, constitutional or otherwise. It acts like a charm in typhus or typhoid fevers, chronic diarrhœa, habitual, constipation, gleat, gonorrhœa, spermatorrhœa, female complaints after delivery, weakness of the brain from excessive mental labor, and in all complaints to which the persons of sedentary habits are especially subject.

Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 *per Tolah.*
Postage 4 *As.*

All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

BINOD LAL SEN, KOBIRAJ,
Manager

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BY APPOINTMENT
To His Excellency the Right Hon'ble
LORD LYTTON, G.M.S.I.
VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA,
&c., &c., &c.,
BATHGATE & CO.,
PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS.
CALCUTTA.
WENHAM'S
EFFERVESCENT
LIME JUICE SALINE
OR HEALTH SALT,
SECURES HEALTH, STRENGTH, AND RESISTANCE TO DISEASE IN ALL WHO USE IT.

It is the surest preventive of Sickness, and of priceless value to Travellers, Emigrants, and all who are exposed to unhealthy conditions of climate, &c.

It modifies the baneful effect of unwholesome water, and is a trusty household remedy of universal application.

It is eminently refreshing and invigorating.
Allays sickness and irritation of the stomach.
Reduces febrile heat and gratefully allays thirst.
Strengthens the stomach, Assists the Appetite, and Improves Digestion.
Gradually Augments the vigour of the vital functions.
Supplies, in cholera, &c., the lost saline constituents of the blood.
Dispels the soporific effect of alcoholic potations.

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES:
ANTISCORBUTIC, ANTIPYRETIC, DETERGENT, ANTISEPTIC, ANTIDYSENTERIC, AND ANTICHOLERAIC.

Lime Juice Saline is a refrigerant composition of Lime Fruit, *corrected* by admixture with its naturally allied, vegetable alkalies, and may justly claim to be considered the most unvaryingly useful remedy ever devised, whether for averting the diseases or mitigating the physical annoyances of a tropical climate.

It is sparklingly effervescent, forming, when mixed in the proportion of a tea-spoonful to half a tumbler of water, a delightfully cooling and invigorating draught, possessing to the full all the life-sustaining qualities of the freshest Lime Juice, together with the piquant and refreshing properties of the best Potass or Soda Water, at not only a third their cost but without their attendant lowering effect upon the system.

Price per bottle Cash 2 Credit 2-8.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.
ESTABLISHED 1809.
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HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K.T.
Vice-Presidents.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.
General Court of Directors.
Right Hon'ble Lord Lawrence, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., & P.C., Chairman.
Report by the Directors
PRESENTED TO THE
Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company,
Held at Edinburgh on Friday, 5th April 1878.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December last :—

Life Business.

During the year 1877 there have been issued 1026 Policies, assuring £1,003.580, the new Premiums on which amount to £32,049 : 10 : 5.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 10 Endowments, were 280 in number, arising under 341 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount with Bonus additions, to the sum of £299,863 : 10 : 6.

As will be seen from the State of Affairs annexed, the Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,711,876:11:7, being £105,446 : 17 : 10 above what it was on 31st December 1876. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

After paying the Dividend, the Reserve Fund will amount to £794,576 : 19 : 11, and the Premium Reserve to £302,671, 8s. 5d., together amounting to £1,017,248 : 8 : 4. At 31st December 1876 these Funds amounted to £1,082,768 : 11 : 10, showing an increase this year of £14,479 : 16 : 6.

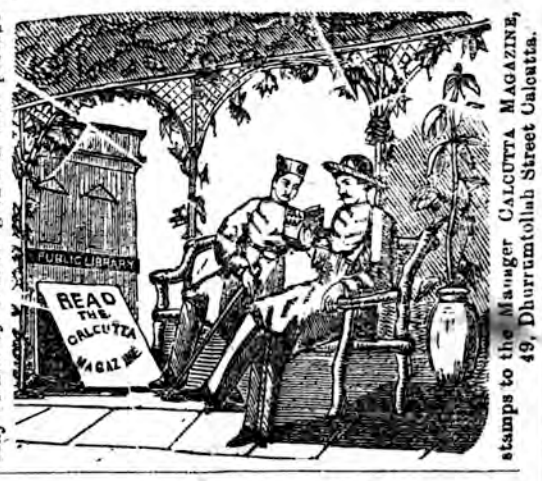
INDIAN BRANCH.
CHIEF OFFICE FOR INDIA.
1, HASTING STREET, CALCUTTA.
General Agents : ROBERTS, MORGAN & CO.,
No. 1, Hastings Street, Calcutta.

Notice.
AFGHAN EXPEDITION.

An extra rate of 3 guineas will be charged to Officers proceeding on active service into Afghanisthan.

COURTEOUS READER.—If you wish to enjoy some pleasant moments in the fields of Literature, Politics, Science and the Arts ; remit a rupee or 32 half anna postage stamps for a copy of the Calcutta Magazine.

SPECIMEN COPIES OF THE CALCUTTA MAGAZINE May be had by remitting 32 half anna postage stamps to the Manager CALCUTTA MAGAZINE, 49, Dhurrumtollah Street Calcutta.



No More Pains!!!
DARLINGTON'S
INFALLIBLE PAIN-CURER.

Warranted to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Headache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Swellings, Old Sores, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, or spots on the face, and Eruptions on the Skin.

Pains of every description have been cured by the outward application only of this medicine, when all the skill of the medical art has been tried without effect.

Per bottle Re. 1 ; Large size Rs. 2. packing & postage As. 8,
DARLINGTON & CO.
49, Dhurrumtollah-Street, Calcutta.

☞ Call for DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER. Thousands of Testimonials of the marvellous cures by this remedy.

The following is from an influential zemindar, the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality of Burisaul, and one who writes after taking from us 9 bottles of the Infallible Pain-Curer.

MESSRS. DARLINGTON & Co., 49 Dhurrumtollah St, Calcutta.

Dear Sirs—Please send me two bottles more (large size) of your Infallible Pain-Curer. I am happy to observe that I have witnessed beneficial results from its application. Some of my friends used it, and I also gave to some of my servants, I was pleasingly surprised to see that in every instance it kept true to its name. Yours faithfully.—EDWARD BROWN.

GENTLEMEN,—I enclose two currency notes of ten rupees each and beg you will kindly send me eight bottles more (large size) of your famous "Infallible Pain-Curer which is undoubtedly worthy of its name. Yours most obediently, Digamber Pershad, English teacher to Baboo Sreedhur Sahi, Zemindar of Manjha, camp Ajodhya in Fyzabad.

JUST LANDED.

A Fresh supply of Homœopathic—Medicines other requisites, from "S. S. *Duke of Argyll*" and "S. S. *Zambesii.*"

To be had at DATTA'S Laboratory. **HOMŒOPATHIC**

No. 312, Chitpore Road ; Battalah, Calcutta,
☞ *Illustrated Price list free on application ; postage ½ anna.*
Terms Easy. Cash.
B. K. DATTA,—Homœo. Practitioner.

Notice.

A meeting will take place at my house on Sunday the 7th Maugh next, corresponding to the 19th January, at the hour of 3 P. M., for celebrating the memory of the illustrious Rajah Rammohun Roy. The proceedings of the meeting will be conducted in the manner detailed below. The presence of Brahmos is respectfully solicited on the occasion.

PROGRAMME.

(1.) The meeting to be opened with a short speech by Baboo Dijender Nath Tagore.
(2.) Singing of a divine song composed by the Rajah.
(3.) Discourse by Baboo Nagendranath Chatterjea on the achievements of Rajah Rammohun Roy.
(4.) Singing of a song eulogistic of the Rajah.
(5.) Relating of anecdotes of the Rajah by Baboos Rajnarain Bose and Anand Chunder Bose.
(6.) Singing of a divine song composed by the Rajah.
(7.) Reading of discourse by Baboo Akhoy Coomar Dutt on Rammohun Roy from the "Tattwa Bodhini Patrika," by Pundit Shiva Nath Sastri, M.A.
(8.) Singing of divine songs composed by the Rajah.

After the proceedings are over the whole assembly will proceed to the Adi or the Original Brahmo Somaj established by Rajah Rammohun Roy and there sing in one chorus the celebrated hymn "Jaydeva Jaydeva."

DIJENDER NATH TAGORE.

HAMILTON & CO.,
JEWELLERS AND SILVERSMITHS, CALCUTTA

Beg to draw the attention of the various Educational Departments of Government, and of all Donors of Prizes to **Colleges and Schools**. to their large and varied stock of

SILVER MEDALS.

Suitable for presentation to Students and successful Prize-winners.

We would mention that the Designs & ornamentation in these Medals are not engraved, but are raised in high relief, which produces a much handsomer effect.

The prices quoted are for Medals and cases only. Any engraving or inscription which may be ordered to be cut upon them will be subject to a further charge, varying according to the cost of production.

The "Star and Crown" Medal Rs. 16
Back left quite plain for engraving.

The "Temple of Fame" Medal, 1¾ inches Rs. 22
The "Triumph of Industry" Medal, 1½ " " 16
The "Laurel Wreath" Medal, 1¼ " " 14
Plain Silver Medals, 1¼ inches diameter Rs. 11 in case.
" " " 1½ " " 15 "
Silver Medals with wreath on each side, 1¾ inches diameter Rs. 20

Each complete in morocco case.

Gold Medals we make to order, at prices ranging from Rs. 50 to 200.

HAMILTON & Co.
WATCH AND CLOCK MAKERS,
Calcutta.

SPECIFIC FOR DYSMENORRHŒA
OR
PAINFUL MENSTRUATION (বাধক বেদনা)

A single administration during menses generally cures the disease and brings on conception."

For particulars apply to Dr. Bhoobun Mohun Sircar, No. 77, Mooktaram Baboo's Street, Chore Bagan, Calcutta.—**Price Rs. 3-8,**
Sole Agents. B. M. SIRCAR. & Co.

VERY VERY SUPERIOR COKE.
Special Select Quality.

Two maunds of this being equal to three maunds of that ordinarily sold. It is perfectly dry and pure not being mixed with any inferior stuff. Price per md. ten 10 annas cart and cooly hire 2, 3 and 4 pice per md. according to distance.

W. L. ATKINSON CO.,
5, Old Court House Street.

FINE-ART EXHIBITION.
165 & 166 BOW BAZAR STREET.

Open daily (Sundays except) from 8 to 11 A. M., and from 3 to 5 P. M.

Prices of Admissions.

SEASON TICKETS :
SINGLE ... ... Rs. 3
DOUBLE (admitting one lady and one gentleman) ... ... " 4
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SINGLE VISIT ... ... " 1
Catalogues Eight Annas each.

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